

New development in AIDS facial wasting  
FDA panel recommends expedited approval for  
new treatment Sculptra to fight lipoatrophy.

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Queer as a ...  
New LGBT center cafe  
begins to take shape.

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Viva Carol Channing  
Back where she belongs,  
at the Geary in SF.

see Arts section



# BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 34 • No. 15 • 8 April 2004

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## Supes look to save AIDS services

by Matthew S. Bajko

**A**s numerous AIDS service organizations prepare to shut down certain client services due to reduced federal funding, city supervisors are working on a plan to see that funds are restored through at least June 30.

After holding a special hearing March 31 to discuss the service reductions, members of the Board of Supervisors' Finance Committee are eyeing \$2.2 million in additional health department revenue to backfill the cuts through the end of the city's 2003-2004 fiscal year. The revenue is surplus funds from billing Medicare and Medicaid.

According to the city controller's office, \$1.3 million would be needed to secure the AIDS services through June 30. With \$500,000 already set aside by supervisors last year in anticipation of the federal funds being cut, an additional \$800,000 would have to be allocated from the surplus money.

"Basically we are going to see if the health department can rework that money, at least through June 30, to give folks working on the budget a chance to look at these services along with other AIDS services the city provides," said Supervisor Chris Daly, chair of the finance committee. "Basically, the point I am making is before we see the overall city budget for next year why should we basically decide these services are going to be cut without taking a look at the overall budget."

In March, health officials learned the city's Ryan White CARE Act funding was reduced this year by \$3.9 million. To absorb the cut, whole service categories were defunded based on the decision of the HIV Health Services Planning Council, which oversees how the federal funding is prioritized.

Most agencies impacted by the cuts have until the end of April to phase out the targeted services being defunded: everything from legal assistance, dental care, and alternative therapies to meals and case management. Health officials decided to use

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Chris Daly

## Gay marriage bill awaits hearing date

Rumors fly over bill's delay in committee

by Matthew S. Bajko

**A**s one gay lobbying group sounded the alarm this week over the fate of a pro-gay marriage bill, the author of the bill and its lead sponsor remained confident it would come before lawmakers this month.

Before state legislators left April 2 for a 10-day Easter break, the gay marriage bill, AB1967, authored by openly gay Assemblyman Mark Leno (D-San Francisco), had yet to be assigned to an Assembly committee. In addition, Leno's resolution against the Federal Marriage Amendment also remained

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Opponents and proponents of same-sex marriage converge at a rally that was organized by the Catholic Church to support the Federal Marriage Amendment Sunday, April 4 in North Beach.

## Still irreverent after 25 years

The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence marks silver anniversary

by Zak Szymanski

**T**hey are loved, hated, tolerated, and celebrated. Since 1979 it has been impossible to ignore the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, whose street theater tactics com-

bined with progressive activism have helped to define to LGBT movement worldwide.

This Sunday, April 11 marks the Sisters' 25th anniversary. In honor of the milestone, the group will host its annual and often controversial Easter celebration, with a theme this year of "25 Years to Life." The party — held again this year in San Francisco's Dolores Park beginning at 11 a.m. — features the "Hunky Jesus" contest, the pet costume contest, the Easter bonnet contest, the traditional awarding of springtime grants to organizations in need, and games and activities for families and kids. A pub-crawl will be open to those who wish to follow the Sisters through the streets after the main event.

Additionally, the Sisters will launch "25 weeks of perpetual indulgence," with an event planned each week beginning Sunday and wrapping up perfectly during the weekend of

the Folsom Street Fair in September.

What began decades ago as a group of men making a statement against "gayness as usual" has evolved into a multi-gendered social and political force that almost nobody seems to hold in the same regard. The group's mission is to "promulgate universal joy and expiate stigmatic guilt," which includes reclaiming religion from the often-hateful institutions that banish LGBT people.

To many religious people, the Sisters are offensive — mocking the Catholic Church and desecrating its holy principles. To others, the Sisters embody the best parts of church: a mission of true and universal love. Some in the mainstream get a kick out of the disruptive drag nuns. Some in the gay community cringe over them, viewing them as not representative of the entire community.

Yes, say the Sisters, many of these sentiments are descriptions with which they can

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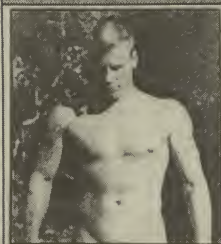


Members of the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence had fun during their 20th anniversary celebration in the Castro on Easter Sunday, 1999.

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# Queer youth housing program opens its doors

by Matthew S. Bajko

Six formerly homeless queer young adults moved into a new housing program in the Castro last week, meeting a deadline imposed by Supervisor Bevan Dufty, who has spearheaded creation of the program and is seeking private funds to finance it.

After Perramont Hotel owner and manager Peter Patel indicated he was open to housing the new program in his building at 2162 Market Street near Sanchez, Dufty pushed city officials and Patel to agree to a leasing deal by the end of March.

Patel agreed to rent the rooms at \$600 a month. With the lease negotiations completed, the young adults moved in Thursday, April 1. As they are adjusting to their new home, the youths declined to be interviewed. But

Dufty said so far they seem pleased with their lodging arrangement.

"I ran into them on Sunday and they gave me a thumbs up so things are going well," said Dufty. "We took folks we knew are really ready and have the highest likelihood of success. They call themselves the 'guinea pigs' and they have had meetings about issues that could come up in this setting. They are really kind of doing everything they can to make this work out."

Dufty needs to raise \$25,000 to ensure the program runs through September. After that, Dufty said he would like to secure \$80,000 in the city's budget to cover the annual costs and expand the program into housing a total of 12 young adults.

Along with housing, the program will provide the young people with job training and social services. Both Larkin Street Youth Ser-

vices and Dimensions are providing assistance with the program.

So far two donors have contributed \$5,000 each to support the housing program, the apparel store Body donated clothing, and Nancy Boy and Cliff's Variety gave household items to help furnish the rooms. The program has also been embraced, so far, by a variety of community and neighborhood groups, who have been meeting for months with Dufty and city officials to discuss the program.

"I want to thank Peter Patel who was very gracious in working with us and making this happen," said Dufty. "The neighborhood groups have just been tremendous. They have given us helpful suggestions and really worked with us to make this successful."

Anyone interested in donating to the housing program can call Dufty's City Hall office at (415) 554-6968. ▽

# Gay and LGBT inclusive bills make progress

by Zak Szymanski

With all the marriage talk, it can be easy to forget that other issues remain. LGBT advocates, however, as well as lobbying groups like Equality California and Lambda Letters, have been tracking statewide legislation that is important to the community.

Openly gay Assemblyman John Laird's (D-Santa Cruz) AB2889 passed the Assembly Ju-

diary Committee last week by a 6-3 vote. In support of LGBT workers and others, the bill requires that all employers must take reasonable steps to protect their employees from all forms of unlawful harassment perpetrated by non-employees such as clients and customers.

Current law dictates that employers must take reasonable steps to prevent sexual harassment by non-employees, but Laird's bill expands these duties and protections to include ha-

arrassment on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, disability, medical condition, sex, age, marital status, sexual orientation, and gender identity.

"This needed measure ensures that all workers, especially LGBT employees, have the same level of protection from harassment committed by customers, clients, and other third parties," said a statement from Laird. "Intolerable in this day and age, existing law has created a limitation in harassment protection where anti-gay, racial, and other forms of harassment are not treated equally. AB2889 will eliminate this difference."

Laird's bill has garnered a wide range of support from groups like Equality California, the California chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Mexican American Legal Defense Fund, the California Commission on the Status of Women, and the Congress of California Seniors. The bill is

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## COMMUNITY NEWS

# Araujo murder trial still in jury selection

by Zak Szymanski

Monday, April 12 appears to be the earliest that the murder trial will begin for three defendants accused of killing East Bay transgender teenager Gwen Araujo.

Araujo was born as a male named Edward but presented and lived as female. She was just 17 years old when she was killed at a house party in Newark, California, on October 3, 2002.

Jury selection before Superior Court Judge Harry Sheppard entered its third week in the Hayward Hall of Justice Monday, April 5 without a jury being selected, and the process could continue through the end of the week.

Deputy District Attorney Chris Lamiero, the prosecutor in the case, told the *Bay Area Reporter* that all sides likely will request that the trial begin on the Monday after a jury is agreed upon. Although declining to comment on the specifics of the case, Lamiero said he was "a little surprised" that selection has taken this long, but that, "It's not that unusual, for a trial of this kind."

Thus far, both sides have been careful to question jurors from their own viewpoint as well as from the viewpoint of the other lawyers. Each of the three defendants — Michael Magidson, of Fremont, and Jose Merel and Jason Cazares, both from Newark — has retained his own at-

torney, and at least one man — Cazares — will look to distance himself from the other two defendants.

Each man is charged with murder and a hate-crime enhancement in the murder of Araujo. All have pleaded not guilty to the charges.

According to preliminary hearing testimony last year from Jaron Nabors, who accepted a plea-bargain in exchange for testimony against his friends, Araujo had oral and anal sex with Merel and Magidson in the weeks prior to the murder. The men began to express doubts about her biological sex, and at a house party on the night in question, were able to determine that she was biologically male.

What followed, according to Nabors, was more than two hours of beatings, in which Araujo was hit in the head with a shovel, and hung from the garage, after which the suspects drove her body to a

remote campground and buried it in a shallow grave.

Questioning thus far has included how potential jurors would personally react to Araujo's "sexual deception," as defense attorneys have put it, and whether jurors could remain objective despite their feelings — positive or negative — toward transgenders.

On Monday, Lamiero asked one woman whether her use of female pronouns to refer to Araujo implied some sort of special sympathies for the victim.

"No, not sympathy," said the woman, who noted that she had known openly transgender individuals in the past and had followed their lead on pronoun preferences. "Just understanding."

Lamiero emphasized to the jury pool that "this trial is not about the rights of transgender people," he said, other than the right for them "not to be killed." ▼

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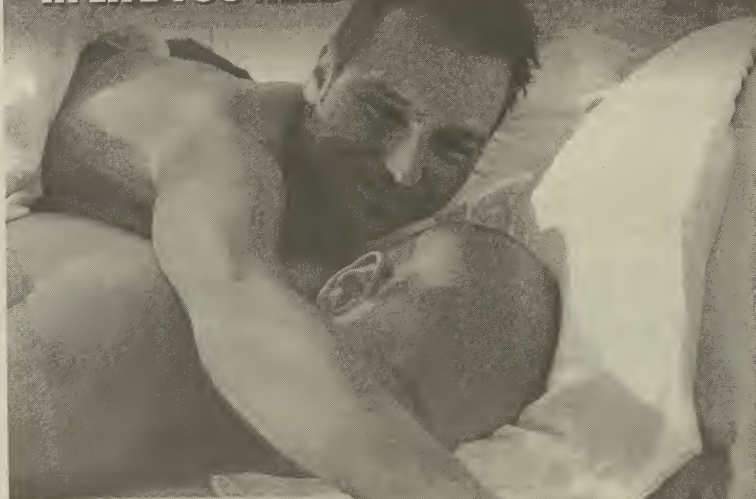
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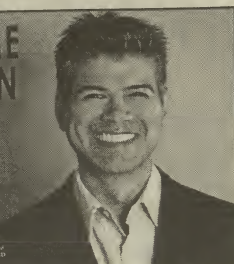
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# News in brief

compiled by Cynthia Laird

### Drag show Friday

Mr. Gay San Francisco 2004, Angle Dunkelberger, a.k.a. "Mama's Super Gay Boy," is hosting a charity fundraiser Friday, April 9 that will benefit the AIDS Emergency Fund. Sponsored by the Imperial Council of San Francisco and Bud Light, Friday's event, dubbed "Not So Good Friday," takes place at Marlena's bar, 488 Hayes Street, starting at 8 p.m. Absolute Empress XXXVI Chablis will guest emcee the drag show. An auction, featuring a collection of drag attire owned by the late Miss Gay San Francisco 2004, Diana McGuire, will start at 9 and includes beaded dresses, cheerleader outfits, and cocktail dresses from sizes 2-14.

### Adoption workshop

The LGBT Family Collaborative is sponsoring a facilitated workshop on transracial adoption and parenting Tuesday, April 13 at the LGBT Community Center, 1800 Market Street, from 7-8:30 p.m. Facilitators Jonathan Pannor and William Rogers will discuss some of the key issues to consider in transracial adoption, including racism, privilege, difference, and racial identity development. The facilitators will also explore how transracial adoption may differ in straight versus LGBT families. The

collaborative is made up of Our Family Coalition, the Lavender Youth Recreation and Information Center, Children of Lesbians and Gays Everywhere, and the LGBT center.

To register, call OFC at (415) 981-1960. Childcare will be provided. If children are in diapers, RSVP to (415) 865-5553.

### Benefit for lesbian health

The Mautner Project, a national lesbian health organization, will host its first-ever California event Tuesday, April 13 in Oakland. The benefit, sponsored by the American Cancer Society's California division and the Lesbian Health Research Center, will honor Dr. Kate O'Hanlan for her work in the field of gynecological oncology, cancer surgery, and complex pelvic surgery. Kathleen DeBold, executive director of the Mautner Project, will be on hand, along with Bay Area political leaders such as Board of Equalization Chairwoman Carole Migden, San Francisco Treasurer Susan Leal, and Supervisor Bevan Dufty.

Tickets start at \$100 and are available online at [www.mautner-project.org](http://www.mautner-project.org). Tuesday's event is from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at 5626 Weaver Place in Oakland. For more information, call Meghan Duffy at (202) 332-5536.

### GMC, TG concert coming up

The world's first all-transgen-

der chorus - Transcendence Gospel Choir - and the world's first gay men's chorus will sing together in a powerful celebration of spirit later this month. The San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus' spring concert, "Oh, Happy Day!" honors African American musical heritage in an evening of gospel, Motown, spirituals, blues, and soul. Guest ensemble Transcendence Gospel Choir will join GMC during the performances. It was founded by record producer Ashley Moore in 2001 and has already appeared at the National Conference of the United Church of Christ and other venues.

The spring concert is slated for Saturday, April 17 at 8 p.m. and Sunday, April 18 at 5 p.m. at Murphy Auditorium, Mission High School, 3750 18th Street in San Francisco. Tickets at \$10-\$40 and are available through the SFGMC box office, 4053 18th Street; the chorus' Web site, [www.sfgmc.org](http://www.sfgmc.org); or the Transcendence Gospel Choir's Web site, [www.tgchoir.org](http://www.tgchoir.org). For more information, call (415) 865-3650.

### Group seeks gay porn

It's that time of year again. The San Francisco Prime Timers is getting ready for its fifth annual porn sale, and needs donations of - you've guessed it - gay porn. The Prime Timers, formerly the G40-Plus Club, is holding its sale Saturday, June 19 at 3507 23rd Street,

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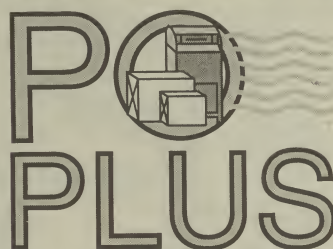
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Good Friday - April 9 at 7:00 pm  
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## COMMUNITY NEWS

# STD campaign adds ethnic penises, TV spot

by Matthew S. Bajko

A production began this week on a television commercial for the city's successful "healthy penis" campaign, the penis costumed character seen at community events will now be joined by two, more ethnically diverse penises.

While characters in the ad campaign have included various ethnicities, the costumed penis' color palette is being expanded to include an African American and a Latino character. Along with the costumes, the stress grip penises handed out will also come in the new colors.

"One is a chocolaty brown color and the other is a reddish brown color so it is more Latino looking," said Les Papas, whose social marketing agency, Better World Advertising, created the campaign for the city's Department of Public Health. "I think we are always very aware of the fact we have a multi-ethnic community. We started out with the one, more generic penis, and we always thought it would be nice to have better representation of that broader diversity."

Each costume costs around \$3,500 to make and they arrived from Los Angeles last Friday. The new penises will join the original penis at several community events in April as part of the city's Sexually Transmitted Disease Awareness Month activities.

"Once it started people would ask where is the African American penis? Where is the Latino penis? Now we are able to expand and provide that," penis mix, said Papas.

The healthy penis campaign, launched on June 26, 2002, aims to get sexually active gay men tested regularly for syphilis. Syphilis cases in San Francisco had increased by 1,000 percent between 1999 and 2002, and alarmed health officials feared such a spike could also lead to a rise in HIV.

Men with syphilis run an increased risk of contracting the HIV virus. With syphilis easily treatable, health officials wanted an attention grabbing way to inform the gay community on how to combat the further spread of the STD. The campaign began with newspaper ads, bus shelter billboards, and the costume characters.

Surveys done by the ad firm have shown the campaign not only to be popular, but also successful in increasing gay men's awareness about STDs. Health officials attribute the campaign to increased visits by gay men at City Clinic for STD checkups.

Since its debut in San Francisco, the healthy penis has come out in Los Angeles, and as of this month, in Seattle. With the new television commercials the healthy penis is set for even more exposure. The new ads will air in May on several cable channels in the late evening hours.

In light of the recent controversy over decency standards on television, Papas met with representatives from Comcast to discuss the ads and ensure there would be no problems with running them on cable.

"They were okay with it but did say they could only run at night," said Papas. "They told us they could only run after 10 p.m. which we thought was reasonable."

The ads will most likely appear



Supervisor Bevan Dufty, left, with Nickolas Shakour and the healthy penis and syphilis sore characters.

on Comedy Central, MTV, VH1, Bravo, and CNN. The ads will be a mix of live action and cartoon segments featuring a biracial penis couple who hookup one night. As one of the penises says goodbye to the other, Phil the syphilis sore is standing next to him.

"As the sore whistles, other sores begin "moving in" with the penis. The ad ends with the penis realizing all these sores have moved in and decides to go get tested," explained Papas.

Voicing the characters will be Paul Cotten and Nickolas Shakour, winners of the "American Penis Idol" contest held last month. Selected out of nearly 50 contestants, both men have acting credentials and are volunteering for the speaking roles.

"It's good to do a voice-over for a good cause and be able to do the most wackiest voice-over you can do," said Shakour, a 24-year-old Burlingame resident who is a film major at San Francisco State University.

Shakour, who is straight, had never heard about the healthy penis campaign until he ran across an ad for the voice contest posted on Craigslist. It was an opportunity he couldn't pass up.

"Voice-overs are what I do. This is outright wacky and it's my specialty," said Shakour, whose is providing voices for the computer animated movie *Nonna*, set for a 2005 release, and a Japanese anime series being produced in San Francisco. "It gives me a chance to show off my more perverted voices."

As for Cotten, landing the voice role is a perfect blending of his former job as a health educator at Steamworks in Berkeley and his new acting career.

"It seemed a good marriage of the two to become the voice of Phil the syphilis sore or the penis," said Cotten, though he joked, "it will be a tough thing to put on my resume that I was the voice of syphilis."

The 43-year-old Cotten, who lives in San Francisco, most recently appeared as the lead in the Exit Theatre production *In Our Names* and just began doing voice-over work. Familiar with the campaign, he said he is proud to lend a hand to a worthy cause.

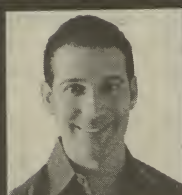
"I think it is a great campaign. It is really important people understand there are a lot of STDs other than HIV. The good news is they are all treatable and curable," he said.

Along with the free voice talent to make the commercial, Papas said the agency has also lined up a volunteer film crew, donated film stock, and discounted editing services. Two 30-second commercials will be shot, one for Los Angeles and one for San Francisco, and each

city is paying \$10,000 for the spots.

"It is at least \$100,000 less than it would have cost otherwise," said Papas. ▽

For more info on the campaign, visit [www.healthypenis2003.org](http://www.healthypenis2003.org). The penis characters, as well as Phil the syphilis sore, will be at the following STD month events: Friday, April 16 from 7 to 9 p.m., for karaoke at Magnet, the gay men's health center in the Castro; Wednesday, April 21 from 8 to 10 p.m., for Smack Drip open mike night at Magnet; and Wednesday, April 28 from 9 to 11 p.m., at the Pendulum beer benefit for Magnet.



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## Oakland kicks off cannabis initiative

by Liz Highleyman

East Bay marijuana law reform advocates took to the streets in late March, kicking off a signature drive to put the Oakland Cannabis Initiative on the November 2004 ballot.

The voter initiative, sponsored by the Oakland Civil Liberties Alliance, would direct the city to regulate, license, and tax cannabis sales to adults, and make private, adult marijuana use the city's lowest law enforcement priority. The proposed regulations would require good business practices and health and safety standards, ban the sale of marijuana near schools, limit public advertising, and license on-site consumption, for example at medical cannabis dispensaries.

Prohibitions against selling cannabis to underage youth, street sales, and driving under the influence would remain in effect.

"The Oakland Cannabis Initiative will take marijuana off the streets and away from kids, save tax money, and generate significant revenue for vital city services like schools and infrastructure," said initiative spokeswoman Clare Lewis.

The measure would also put the city on record as supporting changes in state and federal laws to end cannabis prohibition and

replace imprisonment with responsible regulation.

The initiative enjoys the support of several elected officials, including Oakland City Council member and Vice Mayor Nancy Nadel and Alameda County Supervisor Nate Miley.

"The war on drugs has produced too many casualties and our prisons and cemeteries are proof of that," Miley said.

Supporters of the initiative predict that shifting law enforcement priorities will save money, and that taxing cannabis will generate substantial income for the cash-strapped city.

"The war on cannabis is costing all of us dearly - not only in tax dollars wasted arresting and imprisoning non-violent cannabis consumers, but also in the human suffering caused by this imprisonment," said AC Transit Board member Rebecca Kaplan. "On top of that, our

cities are faced with drastic cuts in services like education and healthcare due to inadequate government revenue, while California's largest cash crop remains untaxed."

Lewis told the Bay Area Reporter that initiative supporters must gather 21,000 valid signatures by June 21, but their goal is to collect 30,000 total signatures. About 1,000 had been gathered before the March 21 kickoff.

Over the next two months volunteers will collect signatures at supermarkets, busy street intersections, BART stations, and other locations where people congregate. All registered Oakland voters are eligible to sign. For those not yet registered, volunteers will also have voter registration cards available.

For more information on the initiative or to volunteer, visit [www.taxandregulate.com](http://www.taxandregulate.com) or call (510) 268-3227. ▼

## New briefs

◀ page 4

between Valencia and Guerrero, but member and sale organizer Arthur Hurwith said that donations are needed now.

"Here is an opportunity to weed out your collection, eliminate things you don't really care for or want to use, do some spring

cleaning, and help a 30-year-old nonprofit organization," Hurwith said.

The group is seeking videos; DVDs; books, magazines, and calendars; 8mm films; and toys (like dildos and pumps), puzzles, and posters.

To make a donation, arrange for a pick-up, or for more information, call Hurwith at (415) 648-8678. ▼

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## Stars come out for Maitri benefit



**S**an Francisco's Maitri Hospice was the beneficiary of a sold-out screening of the new film from C. Jay Cox, *Latter Days*, Friday, April 2 at Landmark's Embarcadero Cinema. From left, Don Spradlin, director of special events for Maitri, joins actress Jacqueline Bisset, who's featured in the movie, and Donna Sachet at the benefit. The film tells the story of a gay Mormon missionary who falls in love with a West Hollywood party-boy.

## LGBT Center cafe operators break ground

by Matthew S. Bajko

**F**our months after they were selected to operate the LGBT Community Center's long awaited cafe, partners Vince Constabileo and Peter Howells broke ground this month on construction of the coffee shop, the Three Dollar Bill Cafe.

Crews began electrical work last Thursday, April 1, and the couple posted a "coming soon" sign on Tuesday, April 6. The proprietors and center officials hope to see the doors open to the first customers by June.

"We have a schedule but I don't want to announce a date until we are a little closer. We put in the window "Opening Pride 2004" so that gives us some wiggle room," said Howells.

The cafe is the final missing piece to the original plans for the community center, which opened amid great fanfare in the spring of 2002 after years in the making and vocal squabbles over everything from the design of the building to saving the Victorian portion of the center.

The cafe space, however, remained vacant, leaving a gaping hole in the center's first floor and in anticipated revenues. Financial and staff troubles that surfaced last spring further diverted attention from finding a cafe operator. After center officials hired Thom Lynch as their second executive director last June, he made opening the cafe a top priority.

In November, Constabileo and Howells beat out four competing bids to operate the cafe. They met with architects and contractors this winter, and the two men, partners for nearly 15 years, married on February 17.

The newlyweds live in Hayes Valley only blocks from their new business. They plan to offer coffee and tea drinks as well as sandwiches and salads.

"We have been meeting with coffee and food vendors and doing a lot of planning with the architect, working on the interior design. It's been a long process but we are going as fast as we can. Definitely, we have been picking up the pace though, over the last week," said Howells. "They will start pouring the floor next week. The major portion of construction is putting the floor and kitchen in."

Besides providing a place for the center's visitors to linger, the cafe is expected to also play a part in the building's offerings. The couple wants to schedule local artists to perform inside the cafe and could play host to such things as book clubs and other meetings that groups want to hold at the center.

"We are working out what we want to do, such things as spoken word events, some live performances, and art exhibits," said Howells. "We plan on having a video art installation screen in there available for video artists to display their work."

The partners hope to finalize

their plans by May and will post information on how artists can apply to use the cafe space on their Web site at [www.threedollarbill.com](http://www.threedollarbill.com).

They will also begin accepting applications for baristas on May 1. Applications can be e-mailed to [jobs@threedollarbill.com](mailto:jobs@threedollarbill.com) or dropped off at the center's front desk. The center is located at 1800 Market Street. ▼

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Vince Constabileo, left, and Peter Howells put up a sign for their Three Dollar Bill Cafe.

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## OPEN FORUM

## Lockyer lays an egg

California Attorney General Bill Lockyer, a Democrat with aspirations to run for governor in 2006, started filing legal motions against San Francisco's same-sex marriages shortly after they started on February 12 – and he's still fighting. Lockyer deserves the wrath of the LGBT community for his wrong-headed legal wrangling, which now includes asking for a stay in the five lower court marriage lawsuits currently making their way through the system and, most egregiously, asking the California Supreme Court to invalidate the some 4,000 same-sex marriages performed in San Francisco between February 12 and March 11.

The same-sex marriages in San Francisco so far remain valid, and the narrow question now before the state's high court is whether Mayor Gavin Newsom had the authority to direct the city to issue the certificates. Several lawsuits now in lower courts hope to resolve the issue of whether same-sex marriage is legal under the state's Constitution.

With Lockyer pandering to conservative antigay groups like the Alliance Defense Fund and the Campaign for California Families, who needs him? Most certainly not the LGBT community. We see no reason why the attorney general's office had to get involved in the first place – the same-sex marriage issue should have played out in the lower courts and then proceeded through the appeals process. Lockyer's move has circumvented that route and has taken the case directly to the state Supreme Court.

Many state Democrats were caught flat-footed after Newsom's bold directive authorizing the county clerk to issue marriage licenses to gay and lesbian couples; it's as if they didn't know how to react to Newsom's decision. We finally have a Democrat who takes the lead, then others in the party start to fret and mutter about process because gays and lesbians want what straight married couples take for granted – equal rights. And some, like Senator Barbara Boxer (D-California), clear-

ly misspoke with their initial comments. (Boxer, as we noted in this space last week, has since restated her position, thanks to prodding from members of the Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club).

Lockyer, however, has gone further and is now thoroughly engaged in a legal fight against equality for all. It's inexcusable. As the state's top lawyer, Lockyer ought to realize the action is just plain wrong. For one thing, Lockyer is an independently elected state official and the lawyer for the state, he's not the attorney for antigay groups challenging San Francisco's actions and he's not Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's attorney. It was Schwarzenegger, after all, who initially demanded that Lockyer take action to halt the

marriages. Interestingly, Lockyer acknowledged last year that he voted for Schwarzenegger in last fall's recall election. The governor, while not embracing same-sex marriage, did

later say on national television that he'd be okay with the concept if the people or the courts changed state law. It's our opinion that state law allows for equal protection and that same-sex couples ought to have the right to get married. And we believe Lockyer is fighting a losing battle to maintain the status quo (heterosexual-only marriage) over ending discrimination.

During moments of pivotal social change, we often discover who our real friends are. Lockyer's legal fight to invalidate our marriages proves he is no real friend of the LGBT community. ▼



## Editorial



## Remember these turncoat Dems

by T.J. Pierce

The right of gays to wed will be put to Georgia voters after the state House of Representatives – on its second attempt – approved the antigay marriage amendment Wednesday, March 31. It passed the House 122-52 with just two votes more than the bare number needed to pass a constitutional amendment.

The first time the resolution came up for a vote, many members of the Black Caucus walked out and did not vote on the measure, causing its defeat. In the second vote, five Democratic Black Caucus members voted for it, giving the House just enough votes to get it passed with a two-thirds majority.

Remember their names. They are Representatives Alberta Anderson (D-Hephzibah), a career adviser who represents a rural area south of Augusta and who served on the Waynesboro City Council from 1993-95 before coming to the state Legislature; Sharon Beasley-Teague (D-Fairburn), a legislative ally of Cynthia McKinney, the former U.S. representative who was bounced from Congress by fellow Democrat Denise Majette; Carl Von Epps (D-LaGrange), a Morehouse College graduate, nightclub owner, and member of the Legislature since 1992; Randal Mangham (D-Stone Mountain), an attorney and ordained minister who was elected in 2000; and LaNette Stanley-Turner (D-Atlanta), a real estate broker who has served in the House for more than 17 years and who is secretary of the influential House Rules Committee.

These are folks who built political careers trumpeting the cause of racial justice, but their concern about discrimination under the law ends, apparently, where gays are concerned. Georgia voters and others should remember them and resolve to vote for anyone but them if they run again. They won't be missed, and Democrats need to be

put on notice that abandonment of gay civil rights will not go unpunished.

Need further convincing that these are myopic bigots whose sense of justice extends no further than the black community? Listen to their own words:

"I am against same-sex marriage. I am voting 'Yes' on the amendment," said Anderson. Earlier she had said, "I'm against gay marriage, but I'm for equal rights. How do you separate the two?" Apparently she resolved the quandary and came down squarely against equal rights.

"I have no problem voting my conviction," said Stanley-Turner. "I will vote the way my district thinks is best. I will vote for the ban."

"It's already in law, and I'm of the opinion that it is motivated to encourage and disseminate people to the polls during the presidential election," said Epps, who nevertheless voted with the Republican sponsors of the amendment.

Mangham said marriage is defined in the Bible and he doesn't want his son confused about its meaning. "We shouldn't have to explain to 6-, 7-, and 8-year-olds why men are kissing each other. I don't like having to explain that to my kids. I will continue to support their right to do what they do, but they will not have the sanctity of marriage."

"To my friends who happen to be homosexual, this is not a civil rights [issue] – it's not against your civil rights," Mangham said. "God does love us all and protects even the homosexuals, but he hates the sin called homosexuality. I'm voting God on this one."

"My constituents say that if I don't vote for it, I'm denying them the opportunity to vote on it," said Beasley-Teague, who said she decided to support the proposed amendment "after a lot of praying and reading the Bible." Beasley-Teague further said she does not accept the argument by some black lawmakers that gay marriage rises to the level of a civil rights issue. And she said she does not believe a constitutional same-

sex marriage ban is discriminatory. "I'm black because that's the way I was born, and I can't change it. I don't know what made them gay," she said. "I just know the kind of person that I am is based on the family values given to me by my parents."

"This will not keep them from doing what they want to do as far as voting, as far as going to school, or as far as where they eat." Can you imagine her reaction if any white legislator summed up his or her commitment to black civil rights progress with that statement?

Below is contact information for these Democratic lawmakers. LGBT people should contact them, and tell them they are wrong on this issue.

Representative Alberta Anderson  
e-mail: AAnderson@legis.state.ga.us  
Address: 512 Legislative Office Building  
Atlanta, GA 30334  
Phone: (404) 656-7859

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T.J. Pierce is a San Francisco resident.

## LETTERS

## Chronicle's musical chairs

I applaud Liz Mangelsdorf for speaking out about she and her spouse, Rachel Gordon, being pulled from the same-sex marriage story at the *San Francisco Chronicle* ["Chronicle photographer speaks out," April 1].

I have taken the "Journalism 101" and journalism ethics classes that *Chronicle* managing editor Robert Rosenthal refers to in the B.A.R. article. I understand the arguments being made that may cause a newspaper to remove a journalist if they become involved in a story they are covering. But in most of those discussions, there is never a black and white answer, and often, creative approaches are found to deal with complex ethical issues.

Though putting a disclaimer on an article is a bit unorthodox and opens up the door for a larger discussion on reporter bias, this is a unique situation. In San Francisco, Mayor Newsom and City Hall are ground zero for what has been and will continue to be one of the major civil rights stories of this decade.

Readers from all over the country and the world are turning to the *Chronicle* to read about the latest developments surrounding same-sex marriage. Readers deserve to have a smart reporter who understands this topic, knows the politics at City Hall and its many players, and knows what questions to ask and how to quickly verify quotes and facts. Gordon is that person. For the last few years, her name has been synonymous with City Hall political reporting.

Since Gordon was pulled from the story, the *Chronicle* has been playing musical chairs, switching up to five different reporters on and off the story. In one case, one of the new reporters who wrote a front-page story on same-sex marriage had numerous facts wrong. This kind of inaccuracy on a big story is a disservice to readers and is much more problematic than putting a disclaimer on Gordon's stories.

As KQED has done, the *Chronicle* can be smart and creative with this issue. It can find a way to remove the "perception" of impartiality. I urge other groups and individuals to continue to speak out about the *Chronicle's* decision. San Francisco's largest newspaper should strive to be better. Readers (and employees) deserve it.

Laura Spanjian, Co-chair  
Alice B. Toklas LGBT Democratic Club

## Reality on its head

Reality is turned on its head when someone like Betty Best writes that the B.A.R. is irresponsible for printing what she termed "unkind" letters regarding the death of David Pasquarelli [Mailstrom, April 1]. For irresponsible, just check out the crackpot theories regarding AIDS which she posts on her Web site, and which her organization persists in promoting. Unkind would be a great, though far too subtle description for some of the antics she's been involved in these past years in the city.

Christopher Hall  
San Francisco

## Mean-spirited letter

Regarding the recent letter to the editor from Stephen LeBlanc and Michael Lauro regarding David Pasquarelli: Michael, I thought you were mean-spirited when you came up with AAVAL, a pseudo-group that attacked the activist group ACT UP/San Francisco, a couple of years ago.

The B.A.R. should not have printed the letter to begin with, in light of the circumstances, using someone's death to attack their friends. Many better newspapers refuse to print letters that are personal attacks, that's just their policy. Not the *Bay Area Reporter*. Hopefully that means they will print mine!

After experiencing the death of my sister and brother, and now after hearing what happened to the ACT UP/San Francisco activists David Pasquarelli and Ronnie Burk, my advice to anyone is to try to avoid hospitals.

Doctor-related pharmaceutical mistakes are now the third leading cause of death in the United States, it was reported in the British medical journal the *Lancet*. Infections in hospitals were listed as the fifth leading cause. A new study published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* suggests that more than 100,000 Americans die in hospitals each year from adverse drug reactions.

As for the diagnosis by Lauro and LeBlanc of Pasquarelli and Burk, to quote John Hunter: If a person dies from some infectious disease (or one of the non-infectious diseases named by the CDC as AIDS-related; various cancers, dementia, wasting disease...) and tests HIV-positive, the death certificate will list cause of death as AIDS. If the same person had tested HIV-negative, cause of death would be the disease.

Dave's message about the toxicity of AIDS meds has saved thousands of queers the heartache of dying by AZT. His message about overinflated salaries is still true. His warning about the total non-science of HIV tests is still relevant.

The testimony of liars doesn't make Dave a terror-

ist, never will. And Silly String isn't violence.

Peter Ramsey  
San Francisco

## Burk, Pasquarelli 'cared too much'

Stephen LeBlanc and Michael Lauro's letter is a sickening example of the worthlessness of self-appointed AIDS activist torchbearers. As an ACT UP/San Francisco member for over 10 years and close friends with both David Pasquarelli and Ronnie Burk, I feel the need to address a couple of issues.

If David and Ronnie made a mistake it was they cared too much, their passion for social justice overrode a focus on their own self-care. The authors' so-called critique is nothing more than callous revisionism. An HIV diagnosis may define their contemporary identity but it's up to future generations how AIDS will be remembered. The young queer activists who fully grasp and appreciate Ronnie and Dave's legacy have yet to be born.

More than anything else, such crass attacks glaringly illustrate the racist, privileged mindset that plagues the gay community. The basis needs of people everywhere, housing, food, and universal health care, remain unaddressed by activists such as LeBlanc and Lauro, who are more concerned with Palm Springs honeymoons and the latest queer cable TV show.

Ronnie's stroke was a devastating result of the stress following the brutal murder of his 15-year-old African American nephew by allegedly racist Texas police. Ronnie spent his life battling racism, more often within the gay community and AIDS service organizations. Dealing with racism everyday takes its toll. A stroke can make one not want to fight anymore when that's all they've been doing all their life.

David's health decline was certainly the result of the three months he was incarcerated in San Francisco County Jail. Even in oh-so-liberal San Francisco, county jail is no walk in the park. David undoubtedly contracted meningitis in the jail's shower room. It was his first battle with the illness that left his immune system weakened and unable to respond.

Rather than address these issues, LeBlanc and Lauro just blame HIV. It's the same old tune the AIDS establishment has been singing for over 20 years. Reject HIV hysteria and toxic AIDS drugs. In memory of Ronnie and Dave, let love rule.

Todd Swindell  
ACT UP/San Francisco

## The AIDS czar position

I am writing with regard to your article, "AIDS policy position remains vacant" appearing in the March 18 issue.

I am writing as someone who has worked as a volunteer to persons with HIV/AIDS for over 20 years; as a person who has worked with the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services, and its director, Joe Caruso, in a number of capacities, and as a person who himself has AIDS.

I am writing to express my regret over the fact that your reporter appears more determined to create controversy where none exists, rather than to contribute to a solution of very real problems that persons with HIV/AIDS face today.

We do not need to fight for a spot on an organizational chart. We need to unite in a struggle to stop Republican administrations in Washington and Sacramento in their war against us. We need to fight for full Ryan White funding, to fight to block further cuts in services to our city and our community.

There is no AIDS policy vacancy in the mayor's office. As your article notes, Joe Caruso has temporarily filled that position himself. Joe and his staff at ONS are energetic and enthusiastic public servants. They have taken the lead in our fight for marriage equality and are deeply engaged in the mayor's efforts to end chronic homelessness in San Francisco as well as AIDS policy advocacy.

Our city is facing a financial crisis and that not only in services to persons with AIDS. Indeed, the very week that your article appeared, city budget officials announced that the projected deficit for the next fiscal year had increased by another \$50,000,000. Facing a \$350,000,000 deficit and service cutbacks, we simply cannot afford to pay an AIDS "czar" \$50,000 or more a year while persons in real need suffer real hardship.

I am writing, therefore, in the final analysis, to second the calls of Mr. Caruso and Health Commissioner Jim Illeg for persons of stature and ability to come forward and volunteer their time and talent to help our city and our community in our hour of need.

John McCutchen  
San Francisco

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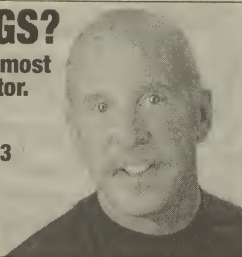
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# Keeping an F-B-Eye on dissent

by Paula Martinac

**W**hat's the significance of presidential hopeful John Kerry having a hefty FBI file? It all depends on whom you ask.

For months, Republicans have been desperately trying to paint Kerry as a left-wing extremist. A few months ago, one anti-Kerry fanatic even altered a photo of an anti-Vietnam rally the future senator attended so Kerry would appear to be sitting right behind Jane Fonda, who notoriously traveled to North Vietnam to oppose the war. (The creative doctored didn't pan out, however. According to a recent poll by the National Annenberg Election Survey, only 20 percent of Americans are aware that Fonda was once a controversial antiwar activist; they know her instead as a movie actor and fitness guru.)

For the far right, Kerry's FBI file must look like political gold. It details his close surveillance by federal agents during the early 1970s for his work with Vietnam Veterans Against the War, some of whose members once advocated antigovernment violence. Kerry didn't, but that doesn't make a bit of difference to right-wingers. They seem to believe that opposition to any U.S.-waged war — even one like Vietnam, which was later disowned by one of its architects, Robert McNamara — is inherently seditious, indicating a hatred of our country.

But while some may associate FBI surveillance with "Commie sympathizers," an FBI file can also be a symbol of honor. Indeed, many of us on the left who have spoken or written against government policies have files of our own. For me, learning about Kerry's file made me like him more. Kerry's passionate engagement in antiwar activities as a young man strikes me as a sign of character and a critical mind — someone who is not afraid to voice dissent even while being tailed by G-men.

Indeed, throughout much of the 20th century, federal agents hounded many important activists and leaders who dared to question the social and political

order. Suffragist Jane Addams, a prominent social reformer in the early 1900s, was seen by the feds as "directly responsible for the growth of the radical movement among women in America," at a time when the mere idea of women voting was considered revolutionary. Her colleague Carrie Chapman Catt, who founded the League of Women Voters in 1920, was "a supporter an advocate of subversive propaganda," according to an FBI report on her activities. Catt's vociferous criticism of U.S. foreign policy during and after World War I was branded by the Bureau as "unpatriotic."

Perhaps most famously, the FBI trailed civil rights activist Martin Luther King Jr. and his successor, Ralph Abernathy, advocates of nonviolent resistance. Because the tide of the black civil rights movement couldn't be stopped, the feds looked for ways to discredit the two African American leaders for "immoral activities" in order to jeopardize their work for social justice.

When a government resorts to turning dissenters into security threats, it's a sign of weakness, not strength. Not surprisingly, Senator Kerry's surveillance by the FBI occurred during the Nixon era, which was one of the most paranoid — and not coincidentally, corrupt — of all presidential administrations. In response to the news about his surveillance, Kerry was quick to make the distinction between the FBI of J. Edgar Hoover and the current bureau. "The FBI of today is on the front lines of the war on terror, and it's critical that they be effective with our full support," he said.

But we shouldn't dismiss Kerry's experience and that of other famous protesters as belonging to bygone eras. There's still an underlying assumption in this country that voicing opposition to government policy renders a citizen untrustworthy. Today, the

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Christine Smith

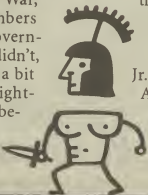
Patriot Act, which extends the powers of the Department of Justice to fight terrorism in the post-9/11 world, threatens Americans' freedom to dissent.

And it's peace activists who are once again under suspicion — but this time for a different war. Earlier this year, the FBI issued subpoenas to four antiwar activists who had played leadership roles in a civil disobedience seminar called "Stop the Occupation! Bring the Iowa Guard Home," which was sponsored by a chapter of the National Lawyers Guild at Drake University in Iowa. As part of their investigation, the feds demanded the membership roll of the NLG chapter and "all records of Drake University campus security reflecting any observations made of the ... meeting, including any records ... of attendees..." Although the feds later rescinded the subpoenas, a chilling message had already gone out to antiwar activists around the country: protest at your own risk.

The revelation that the FBI harassed Kerry makes him a more interesting candidate — one Nader supporters might want to take a second look at. "The experience of having been spied on for the act of engaging in peaceful patriotic protest," Kerry noted, "makes you respect civil rights and the Constitution even more." ▼

Paula Martinac is a Lambda Literary Award-winning author of eight books and editor in chief of Q Syndicate. She can be reached care of this publication or at [LesbianNotions@qsyndicate.com](mailto:LesbianNotions@qsyndicate.com).

## Lesbian Notions



## LGBT bills

◀ page 2

scheduled to go to the Assembly Labor Committee on April 21.

Up for a vote in the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee on April 13 is SB1193, a bill by state Senator Nell Soto (D-Pomona) that provides benefits to the family of certain military service people who die in the line of duty.

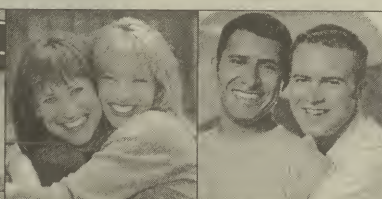
The bill as originally written gives a \$10,000 death benefit to the spouse of any member of the California National Guard, state military reserve, or naval militia who dies while on duty. The bill

also provides that the surviving spouse and children of the deceased member shall be considered qualifying members for purposes of obtaining benefits under the National Guard Assumption Program of Loans for Education, and would exempt the spouse and children from paying tuition and fees at any public post secondary educational institution in this state.

At the request of Lambda Letters, Soto agreed to change the bill's wording to provide that the death benefit will be payable to "a beneficiary designated by the service member," potentially allow-

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## POLITICS

# Ralph Nader ignores pleas to drop out

by Wayne Friday

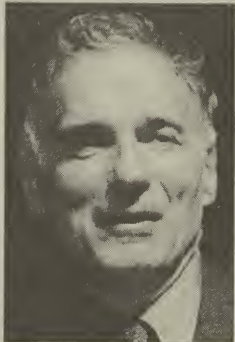
**R**alph Nader, the 70-year-old Washington, D.C. consumer advocate who started his career advocating for causes like safer cars and the environment and went on to become a millionaire by charging thousands of dollars for speeches, has reportedly been getting lots of heat from many of his longtime liberal political allies urging him to abandon his "quixotic and destructive" presidential bid. They have pointedly told Nader that he can do nothing more than guarantee four more years of **George W. Bush** in the White House.

Nader, who this year is running as an independent, complained to the *New York Times* last week that the frequency of these requests from his "old friends" has increased to the point that he felt he must explain what makes him run. One such letter Nader received came from 15 progressive and liberal activists, including leaders of Americans for Democratic Action and the Council for a Livable World, praising his past years of work as a consumer advocate but pointing out what Nader himself has of late come close to admitting—that he cost Democrat **Al Gore** the 2000 election. Nader's percentage of support in Florida and New Hampshire alone, had it gone to Gore, would have secured those states and the presidency for the Democrat.

According to an interview he gave last week to the *Times*, Nader claims that he is neither a nut nor a narcissist, yet he agrees with his sharpest Democratic critics that defeating President Bush this November is essential. His theory: he realizes that out-of-power Democrats will come out solidly for presumptive nominee **John Kerry**, but that he (Nader) will take votes only from disgruntled Republicans and political independents.

**Mark Green**, the popular former New York City public advocate and a strong supporter of Nader in 2000, is one who is now urging Nader to drop out. Green told the *Times*, "He's made his decision and now we all have to live with it. I'm hopeful that we who admire Ralph and are ardent Kerry supporters are all vindicated in the end. First, that his numbers shrink to under 1 percent, because Kerry is such a strong progressive, and second that Ralph does not again make the margin of difference in any swing state that he manages to get on the ballot of. Ralph can bring a lot to a campaign, but it's still, in my mind, not worth the risk."

Nader, during a recent appearance on CNN's *Crossfire*, readily acknowledged that during the campaign four years ago he seemed to be much tougher on Gore and **Bill Clinton** than he was on Bush. That, he said, was because his relationship with Gore, once very good, had seemed to sour over the second Clinton-Gore term, and that he had less access to the Clinton-Gore administration, complaining that they (Clinton-Gore) appeared to



Ralph Nader in 2000

have "less interest" in Nader's ideas.

So what does a disgruntled egomaniac do when he gets the feeling he's being taken a bit less seriously? According to the "Nader Theory," I guess, one helps elect Bush. And this year, as he did four years ago, Nader seems hell-bent on giving this country four more years of Bush. The Republicans, naturally, are loving every minute of it.

Does Nader really think that Republicans will waste their vote on him as some kind

of protest vote? Not likely—but it does mean he'll help keep Bush in the White House. Famed political comic **Jon Stewart** recently scoffed at Nader's suggestion that he would draw votes from Bush by asking what they would call these people—"Conservatives for Nader?" mused Stewart. He added, "Not a very large group. About the same size as 'Retarded Death Row Texans for Bush.'"

Meanwhile, liberals like **Tim Robbins**, **Susan Sarandon**, **Phil Donohue**, **Michael Moore**, and others who backed Nader in 2000 continue to urge him to get out of the race this year and "spare the country four more years of Bush."

Don't count on it. Ralph Nader is a bitter, over-the-hill political has-been who has an ego so large that his Dupont Circle apartment looks like a closet (no pun intended).

## Politics and people

Democrats are pushing likely presidential nominee **John Kerry** to choose his running mate. Among the names mentioned in Sunday's *New York Times*: North Carolina Senator **John Edwards**, Missouri Congressman **Richard Gephardt**, New Mexico Governor **Bill Richardson**, and Iowa Governor **Tim Wilsack**. Another possible, (but not likely) veep name that keeps coming up is that of Senator **John McCain** (R-Arizona) and wouldn't that cause the Bush White House headaches?

A lot will likely depend on who garners Mayor **Gavin Newsom's** endorsement in the District 5 supervisorial race in San Francisco, but I'm told that Assistant District Attorney **Jim Hammer** is quietly lining up some big-name endorsements.

If you caught the recent CBS *48 Hours* with **Leslie Stahl** interviewing two of California first lady **Maria Shriver's** brothers,

**Bobby** and **Anthony Shriver**, you might have come away with the feeling they aren't all that high on their body-building Republican brother-in-law. Anthony Shriver: "He's **Arnold Schwarzenegger**. He's not Arnold Shriver or Arnold Kennedy. He grew up with very different values than we did. He's not one of us." Ouch.

A reader writes saying that, "if the Bush administration had pursued al-Qaeda and **Osama bin Laden** with half the vicious zeal that they are now pursuing the remarks of former counterterrorism chief **Richard Clarke**, they might have had a chance at thwarting the 9/11 terrorists."

Palm Springs' openly gay Mayor **Ron Oden** officiated recently when West Hollywood Mayor **Jeffrey Prang** and his partner, **Raymundo Vizcarro**, officially registered as domestic partners. Prang and his partner "wanted to make a statement." In West Hollywood, a city where three of the five council members are openly gay, many wanted to follow the lead of San Francisco Mayor **Gavin Newsom**, who directed the county clerk to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples, but couldn't because only counties can issue marriage licenses. Unlike anywhere else in California San Francisco is both a city and county.

Gay Republicans in Arizona tell me that Representative **Jim Kolbe** (R-Arizona) the only openly gay Republican in the U.S. Congress, will have a primary challenger this year; a conservative state representative is challenging Kolbe, citing his support of a guest-worker program for migrants as evidence that Kolbe is "too liberal."

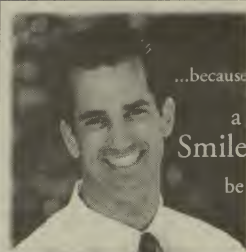
And Sacramento ears tell me that state Senator **Sheila Kuehl** (D-Santa Monica) has a good chance of succeeding Senator **John Burton** (D-San Francisco) as president pro tem of the state Senate when Burton is termed out this fall.

Last week, four Democratic members of the Black Caucus of the Georgia state House of Representatives gave the Republicans in that body just enough votes needed to pass a constitutional amendment to ban same-sex marriage, ensuring the question will be put before Georgia voters on the November ballot.

Close call: With all the absentee and provincial votes now counted, former Assemblyman **Tom Umberg** (D) beat out Santa Ana Council member **Claudia Alvarez** by only 376 votes and will become the next assemblymember in the state's 69th District.

The Log Cabin Club is thankful to former Representative **Michael Huffington** (R) for his \$100,000 donation allowing the gay Republicans to run a TV ad blasting President Bush for his decision to push for a constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage. Huffington, formerly married to political commentator **Arianna Huffington**, came out as bisexual in 1998 after he lost the 1994 U.S. Senate race against incumbent **Dianne Feinstein**. Some close to Huffington are hinting that his donation was an indication of more to come for the gay GOPers from the wealthy former congressman.

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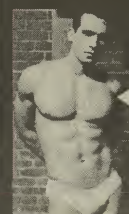
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# Help nears for AIDS facial wasting

by Bob Roehr

Combination therapy had controlled Bradley Land's HIV, but it also drained the fat from his face, marking it with the gaunt canyons that belied his clinical good health. The social and psychological effects were devastating. "I was looking forward to suicide," the Los Angeles resident said.

Then in 2003, six treatments with an experimental injection ameliorated the worst of his facial wasting and people began to look at him "as a normal person" rather than as a skeletal specter of death. Land is "proud and thankful for my return to the human race."

His story was just one of several moving testimonials a Food and Drug Administration advisory committee heard at a meeting outside of Washington, D.C. on March 25. The panel was considering expedited approval of what is now called Sculptra for reconstructive purposes of lipoatrophy associated with HIV infection and treatment.

"Facial lipoatrophy has become the scarlet letter of AIDS," said veteran San Francisco AIDS Dr. Marcus Conant. "It is the thing that is bothering our patients the most." Nearly half of all patients experience a degree of facial lipoatrophy within three years



From left: Drs. Douglas Mest, Marcus Conant, and Peter Engelhard.

of beginning therapy.

Some patients have stopped therapy because they believe it causes the wasting. But Conant said it is unclear whether the syndrome is due to the disease itself and only becomes obvious over time, to the drugs used in treating HIV, or to a combination of factors.

Conant's experience using Sculptra in a research protocol over the last four months has led him to believe, "It is safe and effective and my patients would benefit tremendously" from its availability.

Sculptra is an injectable poly-L-lactic acid that has been available outside of the U.S. since 1999 under the trade name New-Fill. It has been used in more than 150,000 patients in 33 countries for cosmetic purposes such as filling wrinkles.

Facial wasting associated with HIV is a much more severe problem and significantly more of the product has to be injected to achieve satisfactory results. The company that developed it was small and did not have the resources to put into those clinical trials. As a result, most of the trials have been investigator initiated, each slightly different, with a small number of patients. That has made it difficult to evaluate and compare results.

A study of 50 patients in Paris used ultrasound to show a significant increase in total skin thickness in the area treated with New-Fill. Photos also documented real improvement. But perhaps most important was the great satisfaction that most patients had with the procedure.

Dr. Peter Engelhard, a Miami

Beach physician specializing in HIV, received training in administering New-Fill in Paris and later organized a compassionate use, 100-patient, open-label trial of the product in Florida. HIV physician Douglas Mest organized a parallel trial for patients in the Los Angeles area. Both found similar patterns of ease of administration, safety, and patient satisfaction as were seen in the European trials.

Engelhard said about half of his patients require a "touch up treatment" within a year, though some have gone two to three years without additional treatment. He believes that patients who need the touch ups are continuing to experience fat redistribution as they show continued signs of lipodystrophy in other parts of their body. Many patients who go the longest without needing additional injections have switched HIV regimens and their lipodystrophy has either stopped or reversed.

The FDA panel was concerned by formation of what was described as micro-nodules or irregularities where the injections were made. But the doctors said these formations seldom were visible or even noticed by the patients; only a trained physician could tell they were there by gently massaging the skin. The problem was most noticeable around the eyes where the skin is thinnest and directly over bone.

Mest said the nodules tend to occur within the first two months of treatment and slowly abate over time; he assumes they are excess product. One way to minimize their formation would be to

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## Michael Daniels Collection



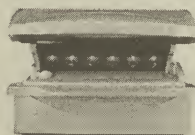
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# Sisters

◀ page 1

agree. As a charitable order that demonstrates the usefulness of camp, the Sisters live and breathe a paradox of humorous seriousness and important fun.

Noting that the subtitle of this year's event is "ruining it for everyone," Sister Constance Craving said, "That's kind of what we've always been about."

"We are a band of outlaws, and we revel in that, not to make a name for ourselves but because we set a tone for everyone else to gauge their own behaviors against. We hold up a mirror to society and say, 'Now it's your turn to look in,'" said Craving, who is an organizer of Sunday's events.

"We draw visceral reactions – positive and negative. And both are okay, as long as people have a reaction, rather than just cruising on through life," Craving added.

The history of Sister-provoked reactions is almost as long as the history of the Sisters itself.

Some of those moments include the 1982 run for city supervisor by Sister Boom Boom who ran on a "Nun of the Above" ticket and drew 23,000 votes, placing ninth citywide in a pool of 22 candidates.

Or the 1997 flak over openly gay Ambassador James Hormel when congressional conservatives – citing a film that showed Hormel laughing as the Sisters passed him during a Pride Parade – blocked his appointment.

And who can forget the 1999 uproar from the Catholic Church over the Sisters' plans to close Castro Street for the group's 20th anniversary Easter Sunday party.

That controversy drew national attention, with the New York-based Catholic League threatening to boycott San Francisco if the celebration went on as planned, and local community members given some clarity on who can be counted upon to speak up for them. Then-Mayor Willie Brown, then-rookie Supervisor Alicia Becerra, and former Supervisor Amos Brown, a Baptist minister, all urged the Sisters to consider changing the date of the party rather than offend. The City Hall battle also gave rise to one of the community's most famous quotes, as Supervisor Tom Ammi quipped to Becerra during a heated supervisors' debate, "Walk a mile in my pumps."

The 1999 incident, however, also managed to draw attention, noted then-Supervisors Mark Leno and Leslie Katz, to all the good that the Sisters have done.

Statements issued at the time by the gay Catholic group Dignity-San Francisco pointed out that far from being anti-religious, the Sisters actually have always "embodied a spiritual dimension."

And other supporters were able to point to the years of charitable and political service of the Sisters: the group produced the first-ever explicit safer sex manual in 1982; and its main purpose is community service, raising and distributing hundreds of thousands of dollars for a variety of LGBT, HIV/AIDS, and social justice programs.

"A lot of people may not see us as being anything other than drag nuns, but we truly do consider ourselves nuns. We do a lot of the work of traditional nuns: we comfort the sick, give to the poor, and do charity work in many different respects," said Craving. "The only difference is that most of our work gets attention through street and guerrilla theater."

Like most Sisters, Craving will not give interviews or allow her-

self to be identified as anything other than her ordained name.

"The Sisters is really important to me, and I don't want it to be diffused by anything else that is out there," she said.

## It takes a village

San Francisco's Sisters do not go it alone. The group has spawned several other chapters worldwide, including orders in the California cities of Guerneville and Los Angeles; American orders in Seattle and the Midwest; and groups in Australia, the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Colombia, and Uruguay.

Craving estimates that 350 Sisters are active worldwide, and that about 1,000 have served at some point during their lives. Current numbers show that San Francisco's active Sisters total about 40 members.

If all goes well for Sister Ann R. Key, she will don her full habit and be one of those active Sisters at the park this Sunday. And she will be quite a sight, as a nine-months-pregnant nun.

Sister Key is a biological female, a lesbian, and a Sister. Although not as common as male Sisters, female Sisters have been a presence from the earliest days of the organization, and commit to



Sister Roma There's No Place Like Rome looks splendid at the Sisters' 2002 Easter party in Dolores Park.

drag, theatrics, and community work in much the same fashion.

Key, a Sister since 1994, first met some Sisters while she was working on a Stonewall 25 march for New York City. At the time, she was living in St. Louis and planning to move to San Francisco, and found herself "totally delighted" by the group.

Like a sorority rush, she said, Sister Camille Leon invited her to meet and hang out with the Sisters when she arrived in the city. Leon later became her drag mother, and

"it was the most amazing introduction to San Francisco you can imagine ... to be thrown into all these amazing events and among all these amazing people."

What attracted her to the Sisters, said Key, was "the sense of humor they brought to activism. I was coming from a real straight-laced 'we are not amused' approach in St. Louis, and while I was happy to do the work, there was no fun to be had. Seeing the Sisters made me realize there was another way."

Sunday's event will allow Sisters and followers to commit to "ruining it for everyone," according to a statement, "with their habitual injection of gaiety into serious affairs including human rights, political activism, and religious intolerance."

Morning activities at 11 a.m. include the children's Easter egg hunt and cupcake walk, as well as the doggy costume contest. The bonnet contest – inspiring all sorts of outrageous hats – is scheduled for noon.

Grants and sainthood honors will be bestowed in the afternoon, and in addition to honoring new saints – those whose good deeds have accomplished much for the community – all past saints and Sisters in attendance will be recognized.

Entertainers include Polkacide and Ethel Merman – "forcing the crowd to alternate between dancing their asses off and peeing their panties!" – and the event finale will result in the crowning of the hunkiest Jesus.

"The Sisters consider it their mission to 'ruin' all detrimental conditions including complacency, guilt, and the inability to laugh at one's self," summarized the event announcement.

For more information on the Sisters and this Sunday's event, visit [www.thesisters.org](http://www.thesisters.org). ▼

# Tune Up

## STD Awareness for Gay & Bi Men

April 2004

**Presented by SFPD STD Prevention & Control Branch,  
STOP AIDS Project, and Magnet**

**Wednesday, April 21**  
8pm – 10pm  
*Smack Drip, aka Smack Dab at Magnet*  
4122-18th St., near Castro St.  
An open mic hosted by Kirk Read and Larry-Bob Roberts, making the Castro safe for performance again – this month renamed in honor of National STD Awareness Month. Pieces about sex, sexually transmitted diseases, and all drippy things encouraged. Special guest - Healthy Penis and Phil!

**Saturday, April 24**  
10pm – 1am  
*Late Night Testing Special at Magnet*  
4122-18th St, near Castro St.  
Stop by Magnet for free & confidential STD testing while you're out cruising the Castro.

**Thursday, April 29**  
10pm – 1am  
*Tune Up at Powerhouse Bar*  
1347 Folsom, near 9th St.  
Free & confidential STD testing of gonorrhea, chlamydia, and syphilis. Get your engine checked and wet your whistle at the same time.

**HEALTHYPENIS2004.ORG**

**STOP AIDS PROJECT**

[magnetsf.org](http://magnetsf.org)     [stopaids.org](http://stopaids.org)

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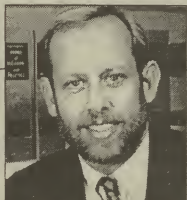


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## Rolling on the river, part 2

The Russian River's  
real estate boom

by Ed Walsh

Get it while it's hot, but before it's too hot.

That seems to be the consensus of four longtime Guerneville-based real estate agents that the *Bay Area Reporter* interviewed on the subject of the Russian River real estate market.

"This is the hottest market we've seen by far," said Jeffrey B. Morford, the broker and owner of Prudential California Realty, Morford, along with his business and life partner, Paul Bombige, have been selling Russian River real estate for 12 years.

"This year is just off the charts, with buyer traffic and tight inventory," Morford added. "We're on the top of four very strong years."

Perhaps because the Russian River has been the least expensive part of Sonoma County, it has also noticed the highest appreciation of anywhere in the county, noted Bombige.

"It's not going to be going any lower," echoed real estate broker Gail Lyman-Reynolds of CPS Great River Properties. "If people want to buy, they should buy now. By the end of this decade it's going to be expensive to live out here."

Lyman-Reynolds has been selling homes in the Russian River and Guerneville area for 29 years and is the past director of the California Association of Realtors. She sold her first house in Monte Rio in 1975 for \$14,000. It was a three-bedroom, two-bath home with an in-law unit downstairs. Now she estimates it would sell for about \$450,000.

"It's very hard to find anything less than \$200,000 in this area now, even a little fixer," she added.

One of the first big increases in property values was noticed in the late 1970s when many of the summer cabins were double-walled to make them insulated for comfortable use year-round, Lyman-Reynolds said.

Realtor Bob Young explained that new residential development near the Russian River is naturally contained by the mountains, the flood plain, and by the political climate that tends to be very conservative about approving new building permits.

Young is a longtime Guerneville resident and owns the Russian River Eagle and the Coffee Bazaar in downtown Guerneville. Young sells real estate through Herth, the Castro District-based real estate firm. In a testament to the strength of the Russian River real estate, Herth plans to open an office soon in Guerneville.

Young and other Russian River real estate agents say the biggest trend is that most people are buy-



Guerneville's new bridge was completed in 1998. The area's rustic vistas have helped fuel a real estate boom.

ing homes now for use as a primary residence, not as a second home. Young said that 20 years ago, about 60 percent of his neighbors' homes were vacant until spring; now all his neighbors reside year-round.

The real estate agents noted that telecommuting and the Internet have meant that more people can work at home or commute to their office just a couple of days a week.

"You can live out in the woods and have all the amenities of living in San Francisco," said Young.

Many of the gays and lesbians who first came to Guerneville to vacation in the late 1970s and 1980s eventually decided to move there permanently, further fueling the demand.

"The gay people have taken hold and stayed on," Young said.

So how much can you expect to spend for a home in the Russian River area and how does it compare with the rest of the Bay Area? Lyman-Reynolds estimates that homes in the Guerneville area average about 10-20 percent less than in Santa Rosa and about 40-50 percent less than in San Francisco. For example, a detached two-bedroom, one-bath home starts in the mid to high \$300,000s. You could expect to pay at least twice as much for an equivalent home in San Francisco. The disparity isn't as great for condominiums. A one-bedroom in Guerneville's only large-scale condo complex, Dubrava, will run you a little over \$250,000. You would pay about 40 percent more for a similar unit in San Francisco.

There has been a huge increase in high-end property, Bombige and Morford noted. In January, Bombige sold the 20-acre Guerneville retreat that was owned by the B.A.R.'s late publisher, Bob Ross, for \$1.1 million.

That was more than twice what Ross paid for it in 1998 and \$60,000 over the asking price.

The couple explained that although property values across the board are rising fast, homes in the Russian River are still the most affordable overall of anywhere in Sonoma County. A \$400,000 home in Guerneville would sell for about \$800,000 in Sebastopol, just a 20-minute drive away, they said.

Morford and Bombige noted that unlike the rest of the Bay Area housing market, the Russian River has seen price plateaus, not dips. They speculate that's probably because the homes there were relatively inexpensive to begin with.

How does the area's reputation for flooding impact real estate prices? The real estate agents agreed that the media gives people a distorted impression of the problem. Morford and Bombige explained that only about 2 percent of Guerneville typically floods and that many of its homes are built on hillsides where it has never flooded. Many Bay Area residents will remember the dramatic pictures of flooding along the Russian River in 1986 and 1995. Many of the homes that flooded in those years are now built on stilts and residents hope that better water flow management will help head off future disastrous floods.

But don't expect to get riverfront property dirt cheap because of the flood risk.

Morford and Bombige explained that while you'll pay more for homes above the flood plain, you'll pay a premium for riverfront homes. People are apparently willing to put up with the flood risk in exchange for being right on the river. Conversely, property across the street from riverfront homes, that is just as likely to flood, will be a lot cheaper. ▽

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# AIDS docs discuss access to care

by Bob Roehr

The \$4 billion spent in the U.S. this year on anti-HIV drugs has slashed the rate of death and dramatically improved the quality of life for most people living with HIV. But the growing caseload has far outstripped increases in funding, and systems of care are struggling to meet the challenge.

The most visible deficiency is with the AIDS Drug Assistance Program. Official state waiting lists have passed a thousand, and that masks even greater numbers of people who have been excluded through tightened eligibility standards and extended application procedures. Others have not been able to gain access to drugs that they need because of restrictions placed on drug formularies or total numbers of prescriptions, increased copayments, and lower caps on total benefits.

The International Association of Physicians in AIDS Care convened a meeting in Washington, D.C. on April 6 to discuss "assured sustainability" of access to care in both the U.S. and overseas. President Jose Zuniga said that would require "a mixed basket" of responses at a time when both the public and private sectors are experiencing severe economic constraints.

Joshua P. Cohen, an economist at the Tufts [University] Center for the Study of Drug Development, said, for all of the complaints about the rising cost of drugs in the U.S., only 10 percent of the health care dollar goes to-

ward prescription drugs.

While that percentage is significantly higher with HIV care, there is also no doubt that those drugs have been responsible for slashing the number of AIDS deaths from their peak a decade ago, and dramatically increasing the quality of life for most of the survivors.

"The dramatic fall in deaths has been our trump card" in pushing for increased funding in the past, said Lanny Cross, ADAP manager for New York state. "It's become a harder sell." He pointed to New Jersey where, on April 1, the list of drugs covered "went from an abundance to a very limited formulary."

The approval of new anti-HIV drugs has been good for patients, "but not such a good thing from a price perspective," he said. The trend has been for newer drugs to cost more, the price of older ones to increase periodically, and for a greater number of drugs to be used in salvage therapy for those who develop drug resistance. That all contributes to increased financial pressure.

## The Kaiser example

"I have health insurance and I need ADAP too." That was one of the realities put forward at a rally earlier this year in Sacramento that helped Californians stave off cuts to the AIDS budget, said Michael Allerton, HIV policy coordinator for Kaiser Permanente.

Kaiser is one of the largest health care providers in California and counts nearly 10,000 PWAs among its clients. He is proud of the fact that 72 percent of them



Lanny Cross

have undetectable viral load. Kaiser has lost less than 1 percent of those patients over each of the last six years, and that includes accidents and non-HIV related conditions.

While only 0.16 percent of their patients have HIV, the cost of treating the disease is second only to depression for Kaiser.

Allerton said there is tremendous pressure from companies purchasing health insurance for their employees to reduce the cost of those policies. The major ways of doing that are to increase copayments and cap what is covered.

That results in poorer coverage for the patients when they most need it.

As a result, Kaiser's case managers, who used to talk with patients about adherence, increasingly are working to qualify them for ADAP and other programs when they reach the limit set by their insurance policy.

Craig Thompson, executive director of AIDS Project Los Angeles, echoed that concern. He said money is being taken out of case management to cover shortfalls in other areas and that makes it even more difficult for PWAs to stitch together access to the services they need.

"The patients do not go away," said Bill Arnold with the ADAP Working Group. "They are going to crash into another part of the health care system, but nobody wants to discuss that." And nobody has done a very good job of making the case of where they will go, he said.

## Action

A coalition effort has been successful in getting most of the pharmaceutical companies to agree to a price freeze for ADAP. Part of the reason is because of the argument that ADAP "is unique in that it is not a whole system," and so the cost of the drugs is not balanced by benefits such as reduced hospitalization, said Cross. Thus, he does not see this as a useful model to expand to other parts of the health care system.

Colorado physician Ben Young saw the price freeze for ADAP as an acknowledgement by industry that prices are too high. He called

industry access programs "only a Band-Aid" on the greater problem of price. While Allerton worried that pushing the industry to expand access programs will become an excuse for legislators not to fix the problem by adding the necessary funding.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has an ongoing initiative to increase testing to make people aware of their serostatus and direct them into care. David Munar, with the AIDS Foundation of Chicago, said it would be useful to have the CDC document outcomes in the success or failure of those people in accessing care. He believes that information will strengthen the case for additional funding.

Thompson wants to see physicians take a strong stand against direct to consumer advertising of AIDS drugs. "It would give pharma a graceful way to step out of it, saving them money which then could be better spent in the community or to reduce drug prices."

Kansas City physician Patrick Clay voiced a standard complaint of direct to consumer advertising: "You have to convince [the patient] that it is not the right choice for them." Few were optimistic that the advertising would stop.

Arnold brought the discussion back to the political component — putting pressure on Washington to increase funding. AIDSWatch, held in mid-May, is planning a civil disobedience that will lead to arrests in order to draw attention to the problem. He suggested, "Some white coats getting carted off in the paddy wagon would be helpful." ▼

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# What is domestic violence?

by Aaron J. Cohen

**D**omestic violence is a pattern of behavior in which one person tries to control the thoughts, beliefs, or conduct of a lover, friend, or person with a significant relationship to them. Violence and abuse are always a choice. No one has the right to batter, and no one deserves to be battered. With very few positive images of LGBT relationships in mainstream culture, many victims are unable to recognize their relationships as abusive. Legalizing same-sex marriage would be a welcome step in recognizing these relationships.

Domestic abuse occurs in approximately 30 to 40 percent of LGBT relationships, which is approximately the same percentage of violence that occurs in straight relationships.

## Types of domestic violence

1. Emotional abuse: He/she criticizes, humiliates you, or blames you for things that are not your fault, and is obsessively jealous. He/she lies to manipulate you and punishes you when He/she gets angry.
2. Physical abuse: Any unwanted contact that causes you bodily injury or pain.

3. Isolation: He/she prevents you from seeing your family or friends in order to maintain complete control over your life.

4. Sexual abuse: He/she forces you to have sex when you are not interested, sleeping, ill, or tired. He/she humiliates you sexually or causes you pain without your consent or refuses to practice safer sex despite risk to you.

5. Threats: He/she threatens to harm you, your family, themselves, friends, or pets or property.

6. Financial control: He/she prevents you from getting or maintaining a job, controls shared resources, refuses to pay his/her fair share, and steals your money and/or property.

An abuser may engage in one or any combination of these behaviors.

## Facts

1. One in four gay men have experienced domestic violence.
2. Domestic violence is not a consensual "fight." Defending yourself by fighting back does not make you a batterer.
3. Domestic violence should never

be confused with sadomasochism. Real S&M is by definition safe, sane, and consensual. Any violence, coercion, or domination that occurs is within the context of a mutually pleasurable "scene," with trust and/or an agreement between parties about the limits and boundaries of their behavior. However it is possible for abuse to take place within an S&M relationship when limits and agreements are not respected.

4. Most victims actually minimize or attempt to excuse the violence that happens to them because of the guilt, shame, and self-blame attached to victimization. Leaving is hard and incidents of domestic

violence often increase when one partner leaves. One's money, housing, transportation, and support structures may have been eroded by life with an abuser.

5. Batterers manipulate victims to believe that they are responsible for the violence.

6. Alcohol, drugs, work problems, jealousy, trauma histories, HIV/AIDS, and mental illness stresses resulting from racism or homophobia may all combine with battering, but they do not explain or excuse abuse. These are serious, separate problems also requiring treatment. One never excuses the other.

7. Domestic violence is non-discriminatory. Victims and abusers come from all walks of life, ethnic

backgrounds, socioeconomic groups, and educational levels.

(The above is adapted from material in *Men Who Beat The Men Who Love Them*, by David Island and Patrick Letellier.)

## Study

A study published in December 2002 in the *American Journal of Public Health* interviewed 2,881 men who have sex with men, living in four cities (San Francisco, Los Angeles, New York City, and Chicago) between 1996 and 1998. Of those interviewed, 39 percent reported at least one type of abuse by a partner within the past five years, 34 percent reported emotional abuse, 22 percent physical abuse, and 5 percent sexual abuse. These figures likely represent an underestimate of the actual number of cases because of the fear and social stigma that is often associated with reporting it.

Individuals who reported abuse were more likely to be 40 or younger or HIV-positive.

Younger gay men and those with HIV/AIDS may be more dependent on their abusers both emotionally and financially and therefore be less able to leave an abusive relationship. Those with professional degrees were found to be less likely victims of abuse, possibly because of the increase in available financial resources.

## Recovering batterers

Recovering batterers have frequently stressed the following points:

1. The level of violence will probably increase over time.
2. If you have a violent partner, call the police every time he's violent.
3. Use of any level of physical force when there are other options is abuse.
4. Given the right circumstances, anyone can kill.
5. If you are a batterer in recovery, you can't drink or use. Ever.

## Red flags

If you are uncertain whether your partner is abusive there are behaviors you can look for. These include:

Jealousy: Jealousy has nothing to do with love. It is a sign of possessiveness, insecurity, and a lack of trust. In a healthy relationship, the partners trust each other unless given legitimate reason to believe differently.

2. Controlling behavior: The batterer will say that his/her actions are out of concern for your safety but these are further actions to restrict your own individual decisions and make them for you.

3. Quick involvement: Many domestic violence victims quickly moved in with their abuser. He/she may claim that you are the only person who understands them and will pressure you to

commit before you feel ready. Real love takes time.

4. Unrealistic expectations: Abusers expect their partner to meet all their needs: to be their perfect partner, lover, and friend.

5. Isolation: The abusive person attempts to cut the partner off from all resources and external influences, especially friends or family.

6. Blames others for problems: Someone is always doing them wrong or is out to get them.

7. Blames others for feelings: Abusers will often see or portray themselves as the "victim" in the relationship.

8. Hypersensitivity: Abusers are easily insulted, taking the slightest setback as a personal attack.

9. Cruelty to animals or children: He/she punishes animals or children and is insensitive to their pain. He/she expects them to be capable of things beyond their ability.

10. Use of force in sex: Any unwanted domination or persistence to engage in sex despite your protests or lack of interest, including rigid and unwanted sex roles.

11. Verbal abuse: Any unwanted attempts to make you feel inferior to him/herself.

12. Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde: Sudden changes in mood, nice one minute, and explode the next.

13. Past battering: If it happened once, chances are very likely that it will happen again.

14. Threats of violence.

15. Breaking/striking objects.

16. Any force during an argument – no matter what the reason.

## Legal options

Civil domestic violence prevention act restraining orders: These are issued through the civil court system and prohibit an individual from being near you or contacting you in any form, at the risk of being arrested if the order is violated. The order can be issued for up to three (3) years. An order may also establish child custody, visitation rights, order the defendant to move out of your home, order the defendant to return your personal property to you, and order them to pay restitution for expenses caused directly by the violence against you. Your abuser must be a current or former spouse, a current or former co-habitant, someone with whom you have had a dating or engagement relationship, a parent of a child in common, or someone to whom you are related by blood, marriage, or adoption.

For more information or assistance in obtaining a restraining order, call Community United Against Violence at (415) 333-4357.

The domestic violence response unit of the SFPD aggressively enforces the police department's zero tolerance of domestic violence.

next page ►



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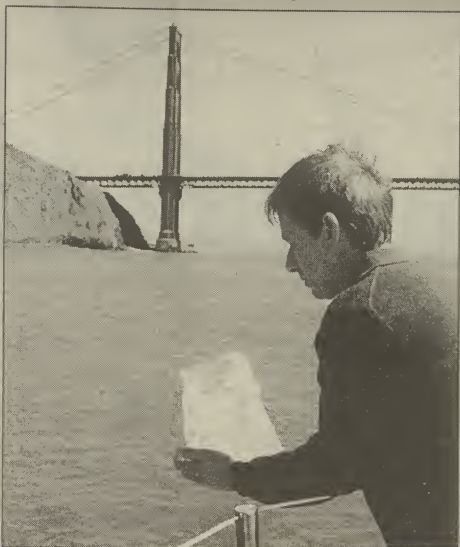
## Resources

The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence has a Web site with a listing of state domestic violence coalitions. A phone call to any of these coalitions will refer you to domestic violence shelters and services in your area. A NCADVA list of state-by-state coalitions is available at [www.ncadv.org/resources/state.htm](http://www.ncadv.org/resources/state.htm). Visit the National Domestic Violence Hotline at [www.ndvh.org](http://www.ndvh.org).

Community United Against Violence serves the San Francisco area. The 24-hour support line is (415) 333-HELP. For non-emergency information, call (415) 777-5500, ext. 302. More information is available at [www.cuav.org](http://www.cuav.org).

If you are a batterer, seek help. CUAV can refer people to anger management and violence cessation programs. Call (415) 777-5500, ext. 302.

# A final goodbye



Cynthia Laine

The ashes of Bay Area Reporter publisher Bob Ross were scattered in the San Francisco Bay just past his beloved Golden Gate Bridge Friday, April 2, on what would have been Mr. Ross's 70th birthday. Above, Paul Melbostad, who was one of 13 of Mr. Ross's friends and colleagues who took part in the informal service, scatters some of the ashes. Mr. Ross died December 10, 2003 of complications from diabetes. He had served for many years on the Golden Gate Bridge, Highway, and Transportation District's board of directors.

## AIDS services

◀ page 1

nearly \$400,000 out of the \$500,000 in city funds set aside for supervisors last summer to fund methadone services, also faced with defunding, through June 30. The rest of the money will be used to help service providers as they transition out their programs.

During last week's hearing members of the planning council, also known as the CARE Council, and a parade of executive directors from those agencies losing funding asked the supervisors to do whatever they could to restore funding to the programs.

Katherine Generakis, a past co-chair of the council, asked the supervisors to do, "as much as you can do in this current fiscal situation to add back as far down the list as you can go with any discretionary funding at your disposal."

Bill Hirsh, whose agency AIDS Legal Referral Panel lost its entire CARE ACT funding, warned that, "we are really looking at the system of care unraveling."

Carla Wilson, director of Quan Yin Healing Arts Center, told the board members that, "700 people just lost access to complimentary care."

Perry Lang, executive director of the Black Coalition on AIDS, said reducing his agency's ability to do case management would result in "the increased burden of HIV infections in the black community."

Anger at the federal government for targeting San Francisco's funding ran high at the hearing. Supervisor Tom Ammiano said, "We are seeing the inhumanity acted by the Bush administration."

Donald Frazier of Walden House echoed those sentiments, saying the funding cut this year "was ridiculous, in a word. So here we are charging the Board of Supervisors to find the money and I hope you do."

As the city grapples with close to \$300 million deficit, the board members said they are committed to trying to find a solution to save the AIDS services.

"We know it is upsetting to come with a tin cup. We are committed in my office on working on support for AIDS services," said Ammiano. "We will put partisanship aside for the common good. There have been many years of this give and take, but I commit myself to working to rectify these cuts."

Though Daly cautioned as the board begins to tackle what to cut from the budget, some services will lose their funding.

"Certainly it is going to be a difficult year. We will consider what we can do so the budget committee does have an opportunity to provide some of the services funded under Ryan White," said Daly. "We will have to decide what type of services the city wants to maintain and what services we will have to cut to balance the budget." ▼

## To Your Health

◀ previous page

Created in 1995, the unit now has 16 inspectors. It is located at 850 Bryant Street, Room 563, San Francisco, CA 94103 and the number is (415) 553-9225. After business hours, weekends, and holidays, contact SFPD communications at 911 (emergency) or (415) 553-0123 (non-emergency) to report a crime of domestic violence.

### A note to readers

I would appreciate hearing

from the public about what subjects you might want to read about. Please send any suggestions to me at: HlthUpdt@aol.com.

This column is not intended to treat or diagnose any conditions. It is meant solely to provide information on topics of interest to the public. Please address any questions you might have regarding your own condition(s) or treatment(s) to your physician or other health care practitioner. Aaron J. Cohen holds a master's degree in community health education and is a certified health education specialist. ▼



Michael McKee and John Snead

Michael Wayne McKee and John Whitney Snead got hitched on Friday, February 13 after five and a half wonderful years together.

Mr. Snead called Mr. McKee at work, popped the question, and a few hours later they were husband and husband, or as the city dubbed them, "spouses for life." Their simple ceremony was performed by Assemblyman Mark Leno (D-San Francisco) in the Rotunda of San Francisco City Hall, with their good friend Michael Smith serving as witness and ring-bearer.

The couple's parents and siblings in Iowa, Illinois, Florida, and Tennessee were thrilled by the news, especially since Fox News flashed video of their vows across America, allowing the families to see Mr. McKee and Mr. Snead taking the step that had been denied them for so long.

Mr. McKee, 50, was born in Johnson City, Tennessee, and graduated from East Tennessee State University. A journalist, he has worked at newspapers in Virginia, Tennessee, Florida, and California. He currently is an associate editor at the Recorder, a legal newspaper in San Francisco.

Mr. Snead, 43, was born in Charlotte, North Carolina, and has lived at various times in Georgia, New Jersey, Illinois, Wisconsin, and Hawaii. He graduated from the University of Wisconsin, and is an independent computer programming consultant, primarily for the automobile insurance industry.

Mr. McKee and Mr. Snead, both 49er season ticket holders, are big sports fans and met on September 14, 1998, while watching a 49ers game at Uncle Bert's Place. Fate seemed at work because Mr. McKee had taken the day off from work and Mr. Snead had simply stopped off in the city for a couple of days while on his way home to Honolulu. Mr. Snead moved in with Mr. McKee in the Castro in 1999, following an 11-month, cross-ocean romance.

As Mr. McKee likes to say, Mr. Snead gave up paradise for him.

Mr. McKee is the son of Harold and

Betty McKee, of Johnson City, Tennessee, and has two brothers and a sister. Mr. Snead is the son of Robert and Martha Snead, of Solon, Iowa, and Fort Myers, Florida, and has two sisters and a brother.

The happy couple honeymooned in London the last week of March.

## WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wedding announcements and photos (.JPG format) may be sent via e-mail to BARpaper@aol.com or mailed to Bay Area Reporter, 395 9th Street, San Francisco, CA 94103. Announcements must be no longer than 200 words. We reserve the right to edit.

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# Global-ization

## How the war of words hurts gay jocks

by Jim Provenzano

Athletics are a global phenomenon often used as a political football for nationalist politics. Some cultural theorists agree that team sports are basically a substitute for war.

As GLBT sports groups and individuals focus their summer 2006 plans on Gay Games VII in Chicago or Rendez-Vous 2006 in Montreal, will we be split across borders, like the 1980 and 1984 Olympics, when world politics forced a schism between U.S. athletes and now-former Soviet Union?

In press releases celebrating the European Gay & Lesbian Sports Foundation's leaving the Federation of Gay Games, Montreal's representatives ignored the fact

that the EGLSF still supports the official Gay Games.

"The EGLSF does not approve of having two major international sporting events in 2006," wrote the EGLSF's Martin Nyborg in response. "Leaving the Federation of Gay Games does not mean that

[we] will not cooperate with future hosts of Gay Games.

The EGLSF will continue to encourage athletes to participate in international gay and lesbian sport events."

Montreal tossed out yet another volley. A March 16 article in Quebec's La Presse quoted Rendez-Vous CEO Louise Roy, who called the Gay Games merely "an American trademark. I think it's the end for them. We would have liked to come to an agreement with them. We tried, but it didn't work."

Chicago Games Inc.'s Executive

Committee responded. "The Gay Games are an international event with a legacy going back to 1982," the committee wrote in an open letter to Montreal. "Though founded by a few visionaries in San Francisco, a review of its board of directors or participants shows its strong international nature. Athletes from all over the world - including from Montreal - have already announced their plans to attend Gay Games VII. Contrary to published negative remarks, we are right on time with our planning and production. We look forward to working with sports and culture organizations, including our partners in Europe."

Montreal hopes to capture the European "market." Their bilingual province may have an edge, financially and politically, with even a new sports group, the Gay & Lesbian International Sport Association, whose "core principles of participation, inclusion and personal best," mimic those of the federation. Yet a for-profit corporation, Montreal 2006, which, in turn, is funded by Tourism Montreal, supports GLISA.

And, in January, Montreal organized a "think tank" of about 30 sports organizers from around the world to create a new sports group as an alternative to the federation. This group's membership was by invitation only, and many members were flown in at Tourism Montreal's expense.

How do the Canadian govern-



Montreal's Rendez-Vous brochures put on a happy face, using Gay Games participants.

ment and a Belgian owned brewery (Labatts, which has been named a "major sponsor") feel about contributing money to a group that has orchestrated a smear campaign against an important international gay institution, and a declaration-issuing think tank with a criteria for membership that nobody seems to be able to explain?

After calling the federation "an undemocratic, process-oriented organisation run by a handful of individual directors consumed with preserving their own image of the Gay Games," subsequent press releases for GLISA claimed no connection to Montreal 2006. Its membership remains selective.

Then, as GLISA held a meeting of privately selected board members, and released its goals at the second annual Gay & Lesbian Athletic Foundation's conference in Boston, it was also announced that Rendez-Vous, a.k.a. Montreal 2006, was changing its name to the OutGames I.

With a shaky foundation of accusations, revisionist spin, and rotating identities, how is GLISA any better than the federation? Is Montreal so threatened by Gay Games VII that they need to assert an unproven superiority?

As Roberto Mantaci, federation co-president said, "Most of the time, their communication campaign was based on inaccuracy, incomplete information, and, sometimes, just on lies."

That assertion was proven again in the April 13 Advocate magazine, when Jean Yves Duthel, spokesman for Montreal 2006, said, "We don't have anything against Chicago, but good luck. They have no money."

But worse, Montreal preys on political and global unrest to woo tourist dollars. In March, Montreal issued a press statement saying, "American gays and lesbians are being subjected to unprecedented attacks on their civil rights," and blamed the federation for "deliberately dividing the American community against itself."

Montreal's new athletic committee offers a veil of legitimacy, but embodies the tactics that critics of the Bush administration cite: preemptive strikes and misinformation. Their divisive comments are misdirected at athletes

in cities and towns across America. Montreal appears bent on fueling a U.S. boycott.

This may hurt the diversity of Chicago's Games. Meeting athletes from around the world was the best part of the past two Gay Games, where I covered sports events from morning to nightfall.

Most athletes spoke English, but some felt more at ease being interviewed in their own languages, like Alfredo, a shy swimmer from Spain. This, I realized, is why I toiled in foreign language classes. This is why I came: to cheer Tasmanian rugbiers, to meet Croatian tennis players, to flirt with the fabulous Thai volleyball team, and to greet a lone swimmer from Brazil.

Despite its history of financial losses, the Gay Games still embody the goals of Tom Waddell, a former Olympian whose dream helped inspire thousands of athletes. That dream wasn't accomplished without the all-volunteer board.

At one moment in Sydney, I sat on the grassy field at Closing Ceremonies, parked between my newfound German wrestler pals and a cluster of athletes from Italy. As Alice Hoglan, the mother of 9/11 victim and rugby player Mark Bingham, spoke of her son, a flurry of trilingual explanations passed between us. Despite an overload of news, some still hadn't heard his story.

And only last month, watching TV news reports from the rainy streets of Madrid, as a third of Spain's citizens protested the March 11 train bombings, I felt sure that under one of those umbrellas was that aspiring swimmer I'd met years ago on the other side of the planet.

While some Midwesterners may have a less-than-worldly perspective, they will open their homes and hearts to visitors, crossing the divide forced upon us by our current administration and global discord.

Let our athletics movement transcend the spreading of lies, and instead celebrate, simply, the shedding of sweat. ▼

Jim Provenzano is the author of the novels *PINS* and *Monkey Suits*. Read more sports articles at [www.sportscomplex.org](http://www.sportscomplex.org).



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## LGBT bills

◀ page 10

ing for domestic partners or other legally unrecognized family members to benefit. These benefits would be applicable to military reserve organizations that are run by the state and are separate from the U.S. military reserves, although it is worth noting, said Lambda Letters Executive Director Boyce Hinman, that these reserves already allow their members to designate a beneficiary other than a spouse to receive

their death benefit.

Hinman urged community members this week to write in support of Soto's bill.

"We need to be sure that any state bill offering benefits to spouses, also offers benefits to domestic partners. Senator Soto has agreed to language that will make this possible with her bill and so we should support it," said an e-mail from Hinman. "She represents a somewhat conservative district. She probably feels she is taking a risk in accepting our amendment. So, we need to show

next page ▶

## COMMUNITY NEWS

## Marriage bill

◀ page 1

stalled in the Assembly's Rules Committee, which is responsible for assigning bills and resolutions to be heard by the appropriate committees.

With time running out — both need to be heard by April 23 — and speculation that Democratic lawmakers, skittish about re-election campaigns, were trying to kill both measures, Lambda Letters Executive Director Boyce Hinman urged gay rights advocates to contact lawmakers to ensure the measures received a hearing.

"We need to keep up the pressure on AB1967 to be sure that the Assembly Rules Committee refers this bill to a policy committee in time to meet the deadline. So today we ask that you write to all the members of the Assembly urging them to persuade the Rules Committee to refer the bill out in time," wrote Hinman in an e-mail Tuesday, April 6 that was sent to members of his organization. "Unless we can get it referred from that committee soon, the bill may die without even having a hearing."

However Leno, as well as Geoff Kors, executive director of Equality California, the lead sponsor of the legislation, both said Tuesday they expect the gay marriage bill to be heard by the Assembly Judiciary Committee on Tuesday, April 20. Neither suggested an intense lobbying effort was needed at this point.

"If I thought we needed to exert any additional pressure or deliver any clearer message I wouldn't be shy to ask for help. But at this point I do believe the bill will be heard," said Leno. "We will be back in session on Monday, April 12 and the lead scheduled judiciary committee hearing date is April 20. I would imagine things will be determined immediately upon our return."

Kors said he shares Leno's optimism because under Assembly rules the bill must be assigned to a committee for a hearing. Though he did acknowledge rumors circulating through Sacramento suggested some lawmakers sought to

keep the measure from being heard.

"There was a rumor going around that they wouldn't be referred at all. But that seems not to be based on anything we can find at this point," said Kors. "Mark is confident there is not a problem. The rules are clear, they have to be referred so it looks like we shouldn't have a problem."

Both Leno and Kors pointed to comments made by Assembly Speaker Fabian Nuñez (D-Los Angeles) last Friday, who told both the *Los Angeles Times* and the *San Jose Mercury News* that the gay marriage bill would be heard. According to the reports, Nuñez said the bill was being delayed so that the Assembly could focus its attention on reforming the state's workers' compensation system.

"I think the question is timing. We want to make sure it doesn't take away from the focus and attention that workers' comp has been receiving lately. I think it's a question of when the hearing is going to take place," Nuñez told the papers.

Some speculation as for the delay in assigning the bill has focused on the fact that the LGBT Caucus, comprised of the Legislature's five openly gay and lesbian members, did not support Nuñez for speaker. Nuñez did not return a call seeking comment Tuesday and Leno dismissed the notion the delay is political payback.

"I really think that is a stretch. That is not how things operate up here," said Leno.

Kors said since the speaker indicated his support there shouldn't be any issue that the bill will get out of committee.

"If it is not referred then there could be a motion on the floor of the Assembly to have it heard," he said. "There is no interest from our part in allowing the bill not to move forward. We will use other avenues if necessary to have the bill move forward but we still don't believe there is a problem."

In addition to remaining confident the judiciary committee will take up the issue in two weeks, Kors and Leno said they believe they have the needed votes to pass it out of committee. Five

## 'Lambda at the Legion'



Lambda Defense and Education Fund held its annual San Francisco fundraiser, "Lambda at the Legion" at the California Palace of the Legion of Honor Thursday, April 1. Special guests included Daniel Kline, left, who works for United Parcel Service and could not get a job transfer when his partner, Frank Sories, center, moved to another city for his job; and Matthew Cusick, right, the HIV-positive gymnast who was fired from Cirque du Soleil. Others who attended included Lambda Legal Executive Director Kevin Cathcart, Mayor Gavin Newsom, City Attorney Dennis Herrera, Treasurer Susan Leal, Assemblyman Mark Leno (D-San Francisco), and Supervisor Bevan Dufty. Guests heard from keynote speaker Kline and viewed the Legion's fabulous Art Deco exhibit.

members of the judiciary committee are coauthors of the bill, and the bill needs only six votes. Kors said the chair, San Leandro Democrat Ellen Corbett, has indicated support for same-sex marriage and Hannah Beth Jackson (D-Santa Barbara) has been a supporter of past gay rights bills.

In addition, the speaker can appoint someone to fill a vacancy on the committee, and Kors said any number of the bill's cosponsors could fill that seat. And despite prevailing political wisdom that more conservative Democrats fear the bill will hurt their re-election campaigns, Kors said their ability to take a stand against gay marriage could only bolster their chances of winning come November.

"I don't buy that Central Valley Democrats are concerned on this. They don't vote for domestic partnerships so they aren't going to vote for this. They would wear it as a badge if they don't vote for this, so that argument doesn't hold at all," said Kors. ▼

## LEGAL NOTICES

## STATEMENT FILE A-0274355-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: See, LLC 128 King St, 3rd floor San Francisco, Ca. 94107. This business is conducted by a limited liability company signed Andrew Narraway. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 01/01/04. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/01/04.

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## STATEMENT FILE A-0274457-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Z's Fashion Jewelry 888 Brannan St., Ste. 2075 San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by a husband and wife signed Jing Shao. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 03-15-04. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03-15-04.

MAR 25 APR 1, 8, 15 2004

## STATEMENT FILE A-0273894-00

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## STATEMENT FILE A-0274644-00

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## STATEMENT FILE A-0274637-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Big Art's Hauling 1319 S. Van Ness Ave. San Francisco, Ca. 94110. This business is conducted by an individual signed Arturo Pleitez. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 03-22-04. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03-22-04.

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## STATEMENT FILE A-0274676-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Minda Lee Fine Home Detailing 429 Douglas St. San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Minda Jo Lee. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 03-22-04. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03-22-04.

MAR 25 APR 1, 8, 15 2004

## Facial wasting

◀ page 12

inject less of the product and add more later if needed, he noted.

While the FDA panel was frustrated with limitations of the data presented to it, there was little doubt that the product is safe. It unanimously recommended approval of Sculptra, but with several caveats. Among them is a training and certification program for doctors who administer it; trials in women and people of color to make sure the effects are no different (most trial participants have been white males); and longer-term safety data. The FDA is expected to follow the panel's

advice and approve Sculptra within the next month or so.

The next hurdle for PWAs who want the benefits of Sculptra is getting insurers to pay for it. That is why the AIDS Treatment Activists Coalition pressed for "the strongest possible labeling language, indicating the reconstructive/corrective nature" of the product, as most insurers do not pay for cosmetic procedures. The FDA agreed with the stronger labeling.

Conant said that his Conant Foundation, which conducted a trial of the Sculptra, would push private insurers and MediCal in California to cover the procedure. The foundation will take administrative and legal action as neces-

sary to see that people have access to it, he said.

Whether or not financially strapped state ADAP programs agree to add Sculptra to their formularies is unclear. But given the FDA label indication and the often-severe psychological burdens that can accompany facial lipatrophy, a strong case for inclusion can be made, advocates said.

Dermik Laboratories, the dermatology arm in the U.S. of the international pharmaceutical company Aventis, recently acquired rights to Sculptra and submitted it to the FDA. It has begun discussing creation of a patient assistance program with AIDS advocates. ▼

## LGBT bills

◀ previous page

her that, when she does the right thing, we will really come out and support her.

"Please write to the Senate Veteran's Affairs Committee. Urge them to support SB 1193," Hinman's e-mail concluded.

The Veterans Affairs Committee office can be reached at (916) 319-3550.

Also on the radar — and considered a legislative priority for the state's LGBT Legislative Cau-

cus — is AB2208 by out lesbian Assemblywoman Christine Kehoe (D-San Diego), a bill designed to make insurance policies equitable for LGBT couples.

On March 30, the California State Assembly Health Committee passed AB 2208 on an 11-4 vote. The bill seeks to amend the insurance and the health and safety codes to prohibit insurance providers from issuing policies or plans — including health, life, auto, renters and homeowners insurance — that discriminate against registered domestic partners.

"This legislation is essential to

ensure that lesbian and gay couples can insure themselves and their children without the financial penalty that they are forced to pay because they are prohibited from marrying," stated Geoffrey Kors, executive director of Equality California. "In AB205 the Legislature made it clear that domestic partners and spouses should be treated equally under the law. Until the legislature rescinds discriminatory marriage laws, legislation like this will be necessary."

AB2208 is scheduled to go before the Assembly Judiciary Committee on April 20. ▼

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April 15, 2004 New Residential Design Guidelines from Planning Department

Max Putra and other Planning Department staff  
NOTE: Persons unable to attend are invited to mail their comments or questions, to request materials hand out, or to call and speak with department staff. Please contact Laurence Kornfield, Chief Building Inspector, Technical Services Division at (415) 558-6205 for further information.

### REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

As-Needed Civil Engineering Services

The San Francisco Housing Authority is soliciting Statements of Qualifications from professional firms to provide as-needed Civil Engineering Services for a two-year period with a total contract amount not-to-exceed \$150,000.

Responses are due by 2:00 P.M. on Tuesday, April 27, 2004. The RFQ document is available at the Authority's office at 1815 Egbert Ave., San Francisco. Contact Brenda Moore 415-715-3210, e-mail moorebr@sfa.org, or download at http://www.ci.sf.ca.us/sfha/prcrmt/current.htm.

As-Needed Structural Engineering Services

The San Francisco Housing Authority is soliciting Statements of Qualifications from professional firms to provide as-needed Structural Engineering Services for a two-year period with a total contract amount not-to-exceed \$100,000.

Responses are due by 2:00 P.M. on Tuesday, April 27, 2004. The RFQ document is available at the Authority's office at 1815 Egbert Ave., San Francisco. Contact Carolina Penate 415-715-3210, e-mail penatec@sfa.org, or download at http://www.ci.sf.ca.us/sfha/prcrmt/current.htm.

### SAN FRANCISCO POLICE DEPARTMENT

"The San Francisco Police Department requests technical, analytical and statistical support services from psychometric experts to oversee all phases of the Q-50 Police Sergeant examination process."

The last date to submit the proposal is April 21, 2004. For additional information, please call Terri Brady at 415-553-1805.

### REQUEST FOR BIDS - Solicitation No. 04-620-IFB-008

The San Francisco Housing Authority will receive sealed bids for the HEATING AND DOMESTIC HOT WATER BOILERS REPLACEMENT at CAL 1-31, 25 SANCHEZ STREET located in San Francisco. The Estimated Construction Cost is more than \$200,000.

Contract Documents, including Drawings and Specifications, are on file at the San Francisco Housing Authority's office located at 1815 Egbert Avenue, Suite 300, San Francisco, California, and will be available for inspection or issuance on or after April 5, 2004.

A processing fee of \$50.00 (non-refundable) will be required for each set of documents. All payments must be in the form of CERTIFIED CHECK, CASHIERS CHECK, or COMPANY CHECK payable to the SAN FRANCISCO HOUSING AUTHORITY. CASH OR PERSONAL CHECK WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

On Tuesday, April 20, 2004, at 10:00 a.m., prospective bidders will meet at the entrance of 25 Sanchez Street in San Francisco. A pre bid conference will follow the site inspection to discuss any questions relating to this work.

All bids will be received until 2:00 p.m. (PST) and read aloud on the date of May 5, 2004.

Questions regarding this solicitation for bids may be directed to Basil Nicolaou, Senior Project Manager, at (415) 715-5942.

Contact Brenda at (415) 715-3170 for Bid Documents.

### STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME. FILE NO: A-0269342-00

The following person(s) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: King's Cafe. Located at: 1338 Polk St. San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business was conducted by an individual signed Tony Chi-Man Yu. The fictitious name referred to above was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on: 08/21/03.

APR 1, 8, 15, 22 2004

### STATEMENT FILE A-0274720-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Sunrise Laundry 704 Polk St. San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business is conducted by a general partnership signed Han To. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 03-01-04. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03-23-04.

APR 1, 8, 15, 22 2004

### STATEMENT FILE A-0274696-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Level 3, 580 California Street, 16th Floor, San Francisco, Ca. 94104. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Wolf Sterling. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 03-23-04. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03-23-04.

APR 1, 8, 15, 22 2004

### STATEMENT FILE A-0274780-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Hearing Health Care of San Francisco, Inc. 303 Caselli Ave. San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Robert Baker. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 03-01-04. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03-25-04.

APR 1, 8, 15, 22 2004

### STATEMENT FILE A-0274867-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Context 250 Fell St. #54 San Francisco, Ca. 94102. This business is conducted by a general partnership signed Jimmy Kansau. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 03-29-04. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03-29-04.

APR 1, 8, 15, 22 2004

### STATEMENT FILE A-0275017-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: Sustainability Solutions 43 Russell St. San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business is conducted by an individual signed Scott Edmondson. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 04-02-04. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 04-02-04.

APR 8, 15, 22 29 2004

### SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SONOMA ORDER FOR PUBLICATION OF SUMMONS (MARRIAGE) CASE NUMBER: 23174

Regarding the Marriage of Sandy La Chantravy, petitioner and Xie Rizhen, respondent. IT IS ORDERED that the service of said summons or citation in this action be made upon respondent, Xie Rizhen, by publication thereof in The Bay Area Reporter a newspaper of general circulation published at San Francisco County, California, hereby designated as the newspaper most likely to give notice to said defendant, that said publication be made at least once a week for four successive weeks.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of said summons or citation and of said complaint or petition in this action be forthwith deposited in the United States Post Office, post-paid, directed to said defendant, respondent, or citee if his address is ascertained before expiration of the time prescribed for the publication of this summons or citation and a declaration of this mailing or of the fact that the address was not ascertained before the expiration of the time prescribed for the publication. Dated March 15, 2004. Arnold D. Rosenfeld, Judge/Commissioner of Superior Court. Superior Court of the State of California, County of Sonoma.

APR 8, 15, 22 29 2004

### STATEMENT FILE A-0275042-00

The following person(s) are doing business as: CCS Construction Coordination 230 California St., Ste. 508 San Francisco, Ca. 94111. This business is conducted by a general partnership signed Marek Slosar. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 04-01-04. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 04-02-04.

APR 8, 15, 22 29 2004

### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. CMC 04-541243

In the Matter of the Application of Sandra Elizabeth Merk for Change of Name. The application of Sandra Elizabeth Merk for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Sandra Elizabeth Merk has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Elizabeth Sandra Cocco. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 20th day of May at 9:00am of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.

MAR 25 APR 1, 8, 15 2004



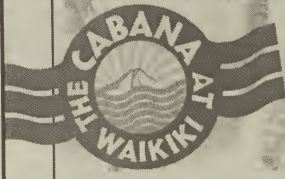
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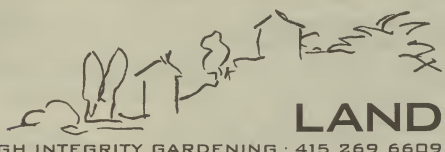
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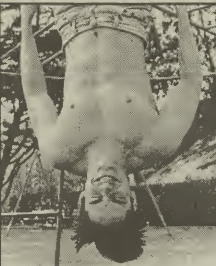
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His troubled-boy roles, from 'Slaughter  
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page 35

Weighing in on Voigt  
Soprano fired for her  
weight comes to Davies.  
page 27



Consequences of love  
Colorful 'Umbrellas of  
Cherbourg' plays Castro.  
page 29



# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 34 • No. 15 • 8 April 2004

## Looking swell, fellas!

### Living gay icon Carol Channing talks to the B.A.R.

by Richard Dodds

Carol Channing is on husband No. 4, and she's sure it will be her last. And not just because she turned 83 two months ago.

"This to me is my first marriage. It really is. It's the first real marriage."

Last year, Channing married retired Modesto businessman Harry Kulljian, a year her senior, after a quick courtship that could be said to have lasted 70 years. Channing and Kulljian were an item back when they attended Aptos Junior High in San Francisco's Ingleside District. But they lost track of one another when Channing headed off to Bennington College in Vermont and Kulljian stayed behind. She went on to become a Broadway star, and he eventually settled into Modesto.

But then an amazing thing happened. Last year, *Just Lucky I Guess*, Channing's "memoir of sorts,"

was published, and among her rambling reminiscences were fond memories of Kulljian. A friend told Kulljian, by now a widower, about the mention, and the two reconnected — and reignited. They now split their time between Channing's place near Palm Springs and Kulljian's home in Modesto.

"I love Modesto," Channing said. "It's such a sweet town. I did a benefit for them." It was, in fact, the first time her new husband had ever seen Channing perform live.

Channing is returning to San Francisco on April 11 and 12 in a one-woman show that she first performed in New

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## Judy meets the 21st century

### Five classic Garland films now out on DVD by John F. Karr

Perhaps I should recuse myself. It's hardly a secret that I'm a friend of Judy's. Although I knew that porn and ballet were going to be swell on DVD, what actually made me go out and buy a DVD player was the only-on-DVD release of Judy Garland's television shows. That was in far-off 1999, and though I longed for DVDs of Judy's movies, the bulk of her career languished in the vaults. Judy's the greatest entertainer of the 20th century. Were we never going to enjoy her movies in the 21st?

Cut to the chase: five of them are in stores now, in gloriously remastered and treasureably bonus-ed DVD editions. The occasion is the 60th Anniversary of the fan favorite *Meet Me in St. Louis*, which has been given the deluxe treatment accorded *Singin' in the Rain* last year. The visuals have been blessed with an "Ultra-Resolution" process that renders the colors impressively rich, and a new audio remix in Dolby Digital 5.1 resounds on the soundtrack. The second disc of the boxed set is packed with goodies, including a deleted song, a commentary track, and two documentaries, on the making of the movie and on MGM Studios. There's even a completely hopeless 1966 pilot episode for a proposed *St. Louis* television series. Better, there's *Becoming Attractions*, a 1996 TCM Special which examines each of Judy's movie trailers to show how the studio molded her image. And there's what amounts to the Rosetta Stone for Judy's career, the Vitaphone short, *Bubbles*. Making her earliest surviving film appearance alongside the

page 34 ►



Judy Garland as Esther Smith, unhappy that the boy next door missed the trolley, in *Meet Me in St. Louis*.

SECOND OF TWO SECTIONS

# Gangling along to 'Gaesop's Fables'

Recognize any gay animals in these grim fairy tales?

by Roberto Friedman

There are a million stories in the **Naked City**, and somebody's got to edit them. Fortunately for us, a great many gay stories fit into a very few forms, the kind you might call fables. In fact, it would not be remiss for Out There to dip into the font of lore and knowledge passed on to us by our gay elders as **Gaesop's Fables**, for there's much in that volume that's still relevant today.

## The grasshopper and the ant

Once upon a time there was a grasshopper party-boy and a gay upwardly mobile professional ant ("guappie"). The ant was always slaving away at his stressful status job, or shopping

for business clothes, or working out with his personal trainer or going to A-list benefit galas. Meanwhile, the grasshopper flitted around all night clubbing and partying with friends and strangers, then slept all day.

Eventually, the grasshopper's trust fund tapped out, he maxed out all his credit cards, he had to move to a studio in the suburbs, and, ironically, get a job in credit collections. Meanwhile, the ant was passed over for a promotion by his antphobic boss, but he was

still able to afford a condo in a drafty, boxy loft building South of Market.

*Moral: Gather ye rosebuds whilst ye may, because Social Security ain't so secure, and ye're going to have an impoverished old age anyway, if ye're lucky.*

## The fox and the grapes

Once upon a time there was a foxy young thing who had a wicked case of cottonmouth from partaking of both a fine joint and some rad ecstasy he'd just scored. He spied a juicy bunch of grapes dangling from a nearby vine, but even when he went up on tippy-toe in his chunkiest Doc Martens, they were just out of reach.

"Goddamnit, those grapes are probably sour anyway," thought the fox. "I'll just go to the bar where my good buddy is working, he'll pour me rum 'n' cokes for free, and then we'll go do some charlie in the men's room." And he did.

*Moral: They'll do in a pinch, but let's face it, California wines don't have "terror," which is why you should always seek out an imported wine.*

## The hare and the tortoise

Once upon a time there was a gay hare who was a little too fa-

miliar with his girlfriend Tina, and there was a gay tortoise who maybe nipped a little too much fruit of the grape and fine herb. They decided to be "gym buddies," and encourage each other to do regular cardiovascular exercise. Until that one tragic day when Tina spent too much time in the hottub and had her heart-attack on the treadmill. But if you live in SF, you probably already know this one.

*Moral: Speed kills.*

## The wolf in sheep's clothing

Once upon a time there was a gay wolf who went to the International Male clearance sale and spent a wolfish bundle on a lot of clothes that looked fabulous on freakishly overbuilt male models in the catalog. But when he got home and tried them on, the wolf found that the clothes hung awkwardly and were less than flattering on him.

*Moral: Put down that Versace knock-off unless you want to look like Donatella.*

## The town mouse and the country mouse

Once upon a time a gay town mouse went on a visit to his gay cousin in the country. He was rough and ready, this cousin, but he loved his town friend and made him heartily welcome. Beans and bacon, cheese and bread were all he had to offer, but he offered them freely.

The gay town mouse turned

up his nose at this country fare, and said, "I cannot understand, gay cousin, how you can put up with such poor food as this, but of course you cannot expect anything better in the country; come with me, and I will show you how to live. When you have been in town a week, you will wonder how you could ever have stood a country life."

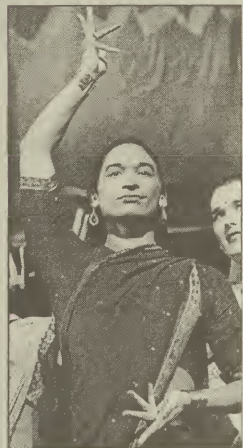
So the next weekend, the gay country mouse came to stay at the gay town mouse's place. They went out to nice restaurants and paid a pretty penny for "comfort food" like ribs and polenta, the kind of repast the country bumpkin could have easily found at his local Piggly-Wiggly out in the sticks.

*Moral: Both country and city have their pluses and minuses, but housing costs are sky-high in Silicon Valley, which has the advantages of neither.*

## Letter from London

And now, for something completely different, here's a report on London theatre from Out There's au courant correspondent just back from merry old England.

"Although we left mere days before Kiki and Herb opened a lengthy run, we were pleased by the gaiety in a couple other shows. *Bombay Dreams* isn't as spectacular as they say, even with **The Dancing Waters** moisturizing the stage during one number. The script is close to dumb, and the repetitious choreography consists of rock-video calisthenics with Hindu-style hoochie-koo accents. But in the **Eve Arden** role as the hero's best friend and sidekick was a *hejra* — a gay man who lives as a woman, called a eunuch by the locals, but actually retaining the original plumbing. Society's outcasts, the *hejra* earn their living dancing at weddings. You'd never find one as the straight dude's confidant, but the English love their Auntie roles.



Sweetie got ovations in London.

"Sweetie — that's her name this time out — led the song introducing the poor of Bombay, and counseled the hero about the difficulties of love in a sweet Act I ballad. In Act II, Sweetie revealed her unspoken love for the hero in the show's prettiest song, 'Closer Than Ever,' and as her plaint became a trio, gave bittersweet blessings to the hero and his love.

"After threatening to expose the villain, Sweetie was shockingly killed. When the curtain calls

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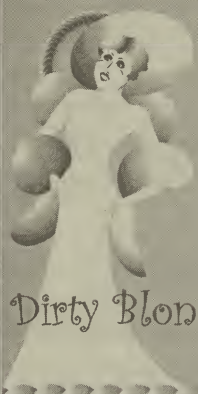
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## OPERA

# The fat lady sings

## Deborah Voigt to appear at Davies Hall sans little black dress

by Stephanie von Buchau

By now you've all heard that Deborah Voigt, the very large, very beautiful and very powerful American operatic soprano, was fired from the cast of *Ariadne auf Naxos* at London's Royal Opera because she didn't fit into the little black dress that was a prominent part of a revisionist, modern production. This insane act of hubris — Voigt is the world's leading *Ariadne*, after all, yet who ever heard of "casting director" Peter Katona, the man who fired her, or the skinny soprano he hired to replace her? — caused my e-mail to go into spam, with dozens of queries about my take on the matter.

Since the diva appears in recital on the San Francisco Symphony's *Great Performers* series on Sunday, April 18, and since EMI Classics has just released her new CD of Strauss and Wagner arias, this seems like a good time and place to answer those e-mails. What do I think about an opera company firing an artist because of her weight? First of all, I'm bewildered by the timing. This is old news. *Andante.com* covered it in February 2003, when it happened. I wrote about it in January of this year for the Orange County Performing Arts Center magazine. Where has everybody been?

People also asked if Voigt's termination from Covent Garden resembles what has happened to San Francisco Opera during Pamela Rosenberg's tenure — i.e., an emphasis on visual (theatrical) over audible (musical) values. That question warrants more than a rant about sexist looksism (was Luciano Pavarotti ever fired for being fat?). I'd like to explore this contemporary event from an historical perspective. When I was growing up in opera (1950-70), nobody cared what singers looked like as long as they could thrill us. Yet then, as now, fat ladies came in all styles. Maria Callas was huge and had the huge voice and musical imagination to go with it. Weight loss may actually have been her vocal downfall. Conductor Richard Bonynge, who lived in London in Callas' hefty heyday, once told me, "I heard Maria fat, and I heard her thin. Believe me, fat was better."

Three of my favorite singers of days past — Pilar Lorengar, Regine Crespin and Montserrat Caballe — were all larger than life, with Caballe being "morbidly obese." Yet all three had beautiful faces to go with their stunning vocal endowment, and all three had major personalities. Lorengar was natural and sincere in any role. Caballe's intensely suffering Queen Elizabeth in *Roberto Devereux* was 300% more dramatic than Beverly Sills' shallow Bette Davis imitation. And Crespin, as the Marchallin or Didon in *Les Troyens*, scorched the stage as a woman burning with sexual desire.

### Come hither

It's true that not all male critics got the allure of these women. The late Scott Beach of the *Examiner* pretended piously to be worried about Caballe's health. He died prematurely; she's still singing. L.A.'s Martin Bernheimer opined that no man could desire Lorengar's Manon Lescaut, yet half a dozen of my gay male friends joked they'd consider turning straight for her magnolia



Soprano Voigt was let go from the Royal Opera's *Ariadne auf Naxos*.

skin, imperial *poitrine* and come-hither glances.

It is clear to me that weight, looks and/or acting ability have little to do with operatic success or lack of it. Opera singers need two things, voice and personality. As James M. Barrie put it in another context, "If you have that, you don't need anything else. If you don't, nothing else helps." Alas, this is the point I'm not sure the current SFO regime understands. Operatic casting is not about "acting," and it is not about weight or looks; it's about lighting up the audience with your voice and personality, hard to do if you

can't be heard past the tenth row.

Birgit Nilsson and Leonie Rysanek were overweight and frumpy most of their careers, but when we heard them together in *Elektra*, *Die Walkure* or *Die Frau ohne Schatten*, did we care? I didn't; I was too busy being overwhelmed by their goosebumping sopranos, by their passionate intensity, by their glittering star quality. Rysanek and Nilsson were also singers you had to see on stage in order to get the full message. Rysanek's vocal method was too unruly and Nilsson's too steeley to record successfully. Listeners who know these divas only from

discs or from hideous Bayreuth photos (remember Wieland's 1965 balsa-wood breasts?) may wonder what all the fuss was about.

I find Voigt's impact to be similar. Her voice is richer, more feminine and more musically accurate than either Nilsson (who tended to sing sharp) or Rysanek (flat), but unless you are watching her, she can seem bland. So much for fat interfering with operatic pleasure. Voigt's new disc (*Obsessions*; EMI Classics) contains a lot of beautiful singing. She's got the strong middle voice for Sieglinde and Salome, the lightness for the Empress' entrance aria, the power for Isolde's narration and curse, and the sumptuous legato for Ari-

adne. I'm not quite convinced by her Chrysothemis — I can still hear Rysanek rising to that definitive "Nein, ich bin ein Weib, und will ein Weiberschicksal!" ("I am a woman and demand a woman's fate"), but most of the singing is so lovely — and well-supported by Richard Armstrong and the Bavarian Radio Orchestra — that you'll want this disc as a souvenir of Voigt's April 18 recital.

The diva not only has a voice, she has a personality. Asked recently if she intended to wear "a little black dress" at upcoming concerts, Voigt, who also has a handsomely self-deprecating sense of humor, replied, "No, I think I'll wear something with lots of feathers." ▼

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# Pacific Street blues

'The Time of Your Life' is big and beautiful

by Richard Dodds

By nature rather than by design, I seldom wind up writing the kind of words that offer easy extraction for advertising quotes. But if ACT needs any more enthusiastic endorsements of *The Time of Your Life* than I'm certain will have arrived before you read this, then here are a just few for the picking: Spectacular. Unforgettable. Breathtaking.

ACT is offering a true gift to local theatergoers in its co-production with Seattle Rep that brings Chicago-based Steppen-

wolf's big-canvas staging to San Francisco. The city, of course, is the setting of William Saroyan's 1940 play, and there is always a bit of a thrill to hear references in classic works to hometown landmarks both current and remembered.

But it's more than the citation of the St. Francis Hotel, the Emporium, the *Examiner*, and the drive down to Half Moon Bay for dinner that makes *The Time of Your Life* such a thrilling theatrical experience. In scale alone, the production rivals anything seen before at the Geary Theater, from a set that pushes deep into the

wings and up into the balcony to the enormous cast that goes even beyond the large ensemble that Saroyan specified.

This enormity provides a throbbing context that surrounds Saroyan's humanist drama set at the tail end of the Depression, on the eve of war, and in the midst of labor unrest, police brutality, and social strife. All of these ingredients find their way into Nick's Saloon at the foot of Pacific Street, a melting-pot joint modeled on Saroyan's favorite waterfront hangout.

Director Tina Landau has found enormous inspiration in Saroyan's tales of the diverse lost souls who find their way to Nick's, turning the play by turns into dreamlike reveries, musical theater, performance art, and gritty drama. Rather than twisting the play out of shape, Landau's vision enhances it by providing multiple layers in which the meaning behind Saroyan's words can take flight anew.

At the center of all the comings and goings is a mysterious customer named Joe who has the means to indulge his eccentric whims and to offer help to strangers in unexpected ways. He is alternately serene and distraught in daily champagne-fueled vigils at his barroom table. He wonders aloud if it is "possible



Kitty (Mariann Mayberry) and Joe (Jeff Perry) in *The Time of Your Life*

to live a life that doesn't hurt anyone else."

Jeff Perry, a co-founder of the Steppenwolf Company, heads a terrific cast made up of actors from Chicago, Seattle, and San Francisco. As Joe, Perry creates a character of a quietly haunted charisma, and we hang expectantly on his slightest gesture. Perry's performance is supported in exquisite fashion by, among others, Patrick New as his loyal factotum, Yasen Peyankov as the soft-hearted saloon owner, Gary Adkins as a fascinatingly bad wannabe dancer and comedian, Howard

Witt as a tall-tale-telling old coot, and Darragh Kennan as a lovesick kid.

Sets by G.W. Mercier, costumes by James Schuette, and lighting by Scott Zielinski, all excellent, contribute to this rare and exhilarating theatrical event. This is a once-in-a-lifetime *The Time of Your Life*. ▼

**The Time of Your Life** will run at the Geary Theater through May 2. Tickets are \$20-\$73. Call 749-2227 or go to act-sf.org.

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## Carol Channing

◀ Arts cover

York last year. It received a glowing review in *The New York Times*.

"Oh, did you read the Margo Jefferson review?" she asked. "That dear lady. I don't know how to thank her. I just finally put in a call this morning. It's never too late to thank someone."

The show at the Geary Theater will be like the New York show, Channing said, "but much more of it. I tell the story of my life in the theater, and sing, dance, talk, and tell about the friends I was privileged to meet, because once you get star billing, then those are your friends. So I tell about Ethel Merman, Yul Brynner, Ethel Waters, Sophie Tucker, the Lunts, Helen Hayes. It's not a set show. I adjust to each audience."

All these personalities are also mentioned in her book, and some of the stories she tells in print can be a bit raunchy. Like the discussion she had with Ann Miller and Ethel Merman on *The Love Boat* set about where each sweats the most: face, armpits, or crotch.

### Stage rounds

She'll probably recall making the rounds with her mother as a child to the backstages of the Geary, Curran, and other theaters to drop off copies of *The Christian Science Monitor*. But other than wild-about-Harry stories, there won't be much about her adult personal life.

Channing herself put that life into the headlines when she sued her longtime husband-manager Charles Lowe for divorce in 1999, charging him with sexual neglect, mental abuse, and squandering her fortune. By her own admission, she let him control every facet of her life and career — even poisoning her relationship with her only child. Lowe died in 1999, but not before suing her for defamation. He said she was spreading false sto-



"When you're working all the time, you don't have time to stop and figure."

ries that he was gay, and noted that she had left him just days after he had had a stroke.

Whatever the truth, one has to wonder what took her so long to take control of her life. "I was working, doing eight shows a week all the time," she said. "When you're working all the time, you haven't got time to stop and figure, wait a minute, there's no love in my life. There's an emergency every minute, every second. I couldn't stop and think."

Further probing into this area brought a polite rebuke from a press agent who had been silently monitoring the call.

The need to quickly change subjects brought up Channing's reputation as a gay icon. "Oh, please, that happened way back, but I'm proud of that."

Channing then brought up an honorary doctorate she is receiv-

ing from Cal State Stanislaus in Turlock. "I'll be Dr. Carol, and I make house calls."

She plans to tour with her one-woman show, lists a string of benefits she is doing for Armenian causes ("Harry's an Armenian"), and will be turning up at PBS stations to help with pledge drives as they show a television special she made with Pearl Bailey in 1969.

It certainly seems as if Channing has gotten a second wind. "Oh, I don't know," she replied. "It seems to me I never stopped blowing." ▼

**Carol Channing** will perform at the Geary Theater on April 11-12. Tickets are \$20-\$70. Tickets to the performance and a post-show reception with Channing are \$125. Call 748-2228 or go to act-sf.org.

Photo courtesy of ACT

## FILM



Genevieve (a young, radiant Catherine Deneuve) works at her mother's umbrella store in coastal town Cherbourg.

## Rainy-day sunshine

'Umbrellas of Cherbourg' comes to Castro

by Tavo Amador

First love and its consequences have been the subject of countless novels, plays, movies, poems, and operas. Seldom have the passion, joy and disappointment been handled as expertly as by Jacques Demy in 1964's *Les Parapluies de Cherbourg* (*The Umbrellas of Cherbourg*), which, in a beautifully restored print, plays the Castro Theatre April 9-14.

The story covers the years 1957-63. Genevieve (a young, radiant Catherine Deneuve) works in her mother's umbrella store in the French Atlantic coast town of Cherbourg. She plans to wed Guy (the handsome, sweet Nino Castelnuovo), an automobile mechanic. Her mother (a chic Anne Vernon) insists these teenagers are much too young to even think of marriage. Guy says nothing about Genevieve to his invalid godmother, Aunt Elise (Mireille Perrey), with whom he lives. She's cared for by the lovely but grave Madeleine (Ellen Farner), who adores Guy, even though he barely notices her.

Financial difficulties force Genevieve's mother to sell her pearl necklace to the kindly Roland (a handsome, blue-eyed Marc Michel). To her mother's joy, Roland, a successful businessman, is smitten with Genevieve, but she is unresponsive. Guy gets drafted to fight in the Algerian War. Genevieve's grief over their parting is overwhelming. Shortly after he leaves, she discovers she's pregnant.

Guy writes intermittently. Genevieve feels abandoned and, at her mother's urging, considers Roland. When Roland learns of her condition, he offers marriage, promising to love the child as his own. Genevieve agrees. Shortly after the wedding, she, Roland, and her mother abandon Cherbourg for Paris.

Guy, wounded slightly in the war, returns and is devastated by Genevieve's betrayal. He's unable to concentrate on work, performs badly, and quits angrily. A brief encounter with a prostitute nicknamed Jenny (short for Genevieve) is unsatisfying. His

aunt's death leaves him desolate, but helps him realize how much he needs Madeleine. They wed and, using his inheritance, open a service station/garage in town. They have a son.

One Christmas Eve, Genevieve drives into Guy's station. Her little girl is with her, but not Roland. Guy recognizes her. Madeleine and his son are out looking at store windows. He invites Genevieve inside. After all these years, they are again alone.

### Sung through

In less expert hands, the story could be banal. Here, it is fresh and filled with surprises. All the dialogue is sung. It seems so natural that it takes a few minutes to notice. This isn't opera: no big arias. It's not a Broadway musical: no show-stopping numbers. Nothing slows down the action. The actors don't appear remotely self-conscious — they just sing, rather than talk.

Colors are used gloriously. Outside, Cherbourg is often shrouded in fog, laced with rain, or buried in snow. Inside, each apartment seems sunny, with bright wallpaper. Genevieve and her mother are clad in luminous clothes.

Over the years, critics have split over Deneuve's abilities. Her detractors call her an Ice Princess, which is often true. Others, like critic David Thomson, consider her a great actress. Here she proves him right — she is passionate, moving, and utterly believable. The coolness appears only in her final scenes, when she is wary. Unsurprisingly, *Umbrellas* made her an international name. Her exquisite performance is matched by Castelnuovo, who brings out all of Guy's complexities. He's haunting in the movie's final scenes. The rest of the cast is convincing, often touching.

Michel Legrand's melodic score produced two smash hits with new English lyrics: "I Will Wait for You" and "Watch What Happens." *Umbrellas* won the top prize at Cannes, but lost the Best Foreign Film Oscar to *Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow*. Somewhat bizarrely, in 1965, it received Academy Award nominations for

Original Musical Score and Adaptation of a Score. It lost the former to *Dr. Zhivago* and the latter to *The Sound of Music*.

Today, it's as joyful and beautiful as a spring bouquet of tulips, daffodils, lilacs, and lilies. Rush to the Castro to experience it on the big screen. ▼

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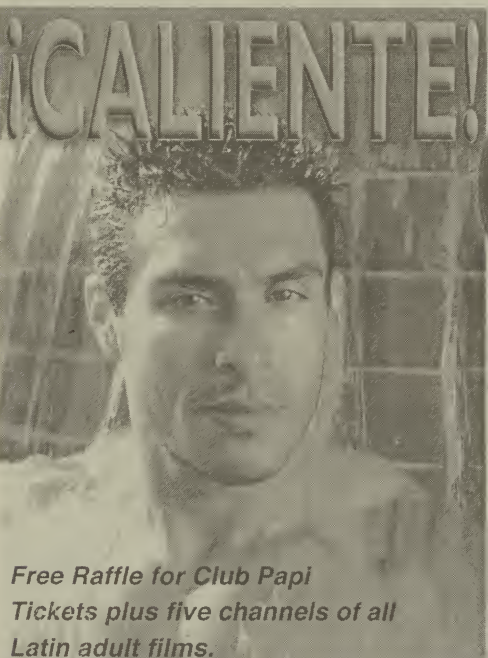
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## Bach's Goldberg Variations: Bring them on!

by Tim Pfaff

One indication of the inexhaustibility of Bach's *Goldberg Variations* is the number of times keyboardists have taken it back to the studio. Glenn Gould's two studio recordings still divide his hardcore fans as to which is the greater, and there is a similar if more decorous dispute about the relative merits of Gustav Leonhardt's three.

The two latest recordings — pianist András Schiff's (ECM) and harpsichordist Pierre Hantaï's (Mirare), both second recordings by these estimable artists — show unmistakable deepening of interpretation. They also reignite the argument about the appropriateness of one instrument over the other for the *Goldbergs*, a dispute as tired as the music is a vital and an ever-renewable source.



Muddying the waters further, Hantaï performs on a modern copy of a German two-manual instrument characteristic of one Bach might have played. It is a splendid instrument, fully up to the frolic of a variation as manic as the 14th without sounding jangly or losing clarity of contrapuntal line. It is, further, even throughout the registers with a tonal range that, under Hantaï's experienced hands, yields up sounds that cover the full expres-

sive range from sweet to pungent.

The ongoing marvel, though, is Hantaï's command of the score. Like all great players of the *Goldbergs*, he has the nearly 80 minutes of music firmly within his intellectual grasp, such that every note, say nothing of every variation and canon, finds its place in the overall musical design. The arresting virtuosity he brings to bear on a variation like the febrile 17th and the off-kilter pulses of the breakneck 20th are balanced by the rock-solid legato in evidence elsewhere. And beneath it all is a freedom of rhythm granted only to master keyboard artists, whatever the instrument.

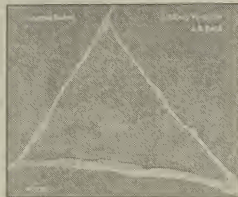
Hantaï's is a bold, gestural performance that characterizes each variation with an engraver's sense of detail. While never slackening, neither does it pile up the piece's myriad effects in a way that exhausts the careful listener. The way he articulates Variation 23 is as individual and boundary-pushing as modern harpsichord playing gets. It steps up to the very edge of what could be called goofy, which is a note this exuberantly inventive work should sound from time to time.

Hearing Hantaï dispatch the 25th variation without sentimentalizing it à la *The English Patient* is among its peak moments. Instead of wringing "feeling" out of it, he lets its suspended metric design and startling dissonances do the work, to far more long-lasting satisfaction.

### Heart strings

One of the unequivocal joys of Schiff's live recording (in Basel, October 30, 2001) is the guided tour of the piece the pianist supplies in the liner notes. It's a frequently puckish accompaniment to an equally insightful performance. The tour over, Schiff can't resist taking on the purists.

"Let's not forget we're talking about an hour and a quarter of music — hands on heart, can you



listen to the harpsichord that long?" he asks provocatively. Hands on heart (though I'm typing as I say it), András, I can.

Normally, I could care less what kind of instrument the piece is played on. But that's not the same as saying that the particular instrument makes no difference. My only real objection to Schiff's new *Goldbergs* is his choice of instrument, which he fails to identify. I'd bet my fee for this review that it's the Bösendorfer he alternates with the Steinway, and it affects me the way he implies that the harpsichord's sound affects him. I've listened to this CD numerous times, but never start to finish; by midpoint, I can't take the piano's overbearing brightness of tone any longer.

That said, Schiff's interpretation appears to have deepened even more than Hantaï's. It's overall a jollier reading, reveling in the work's rich sonorities without trivializing the music in the slightest. The playing is nimble and exuberant, both physically and intellectually. Like Hantaï's, it knows where it's going and where it's been, while remaining live to the possibilities of the moment. It's not a notably risk-taking performance, but it's consistently imaginative and rhythmically spry.

Schiff's Variation 25 has a magically suspended quality but plays on the heart's strings as much as the Bösendorfer's.

Bach's *Goldberg Variations* do not need to be the next thing to go to war over. If you're facing a Solomonic decision here, I'd say save the baby and choose the instrument you prefer. ▼

## Out There

◀ page 26

came, she received the biggest ovation, bigger than the cute, usually bare-chested hero's.

"Thornton Wilder's *The Skin of Our Teeth* at the Young Vic was completely traditional, with the exception of *Betty Bourne* as the Fortune Teller, the first one we'd ever seen who was truly scary in her *Cassandra*-like predictions. In her youth, madcap drag queen Betty was a founder of the *Bloodlips* troupe, England's equivalent to the *Cockettes*. She's matured into the doyenne of England's male actresses, with a variety of legit credits to her name. Clearly, the English love their Auntie roles, and we felt honored to see Betty once again."

### More Mercedes

Last week's Out There mention of the passing of dyke action hero Mercedes McCambridge had our pal the invaluable *Hollywood Hank* anxious to fill in some of the details.

McCambridge won the Best Supporting Actress Academy Award for her first movie, *All the King's Men* ('49), playing a nonsense reporter covering dirty, Huey Long politics in Louisiana.

She got to play Emma Small in *Johnny Guitar* quite by accident. Joan Crawford wanted Barbara Stanwyck, but poverty-row Republic Studios couldn't afford two star salaries. Second choice Claire Trevor turned the role down, so McCambridge got it. Filming in Arizona was rough, and, after completing one very demanding scene, the entire crew applauded McCambridge, thereby infuriating Crawford. McCambridge said she understood. "If I were Joan Crawford and some Mamie Glutz stole a scene from me, I'd be mad, too."

She received a Best Supporting Actress Oscar nomination for 1956's *Giant*, playing Rock Hudson's butch sister who is none too happy with his beautiful bride, Elizabeth Taylor. Three years later, she played Taylor's fatuous mother in *Suddenly, Last Summer*, conflicted about whether to permit sister-in-law Katharine Hepburn to lobotomize her daughter in exchange for the quick release of a substantial inheritance. McCambridge appeared at the Curran Theatre as the Mother Superior in *Agnes of God*, a role created on Broadway by Geraldine Page and in the movie by Anne Bancroft. She was superb. As are you, H. Hank, so thanks for the lowdown! ▼

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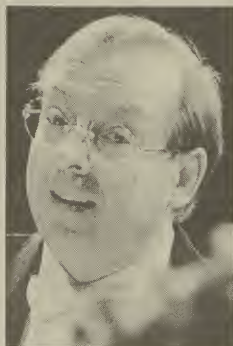
## Belated Bay Area premiere of Scarlatti's 'lost' Vespers

by Jason Victor Serinus

After 284 years after their initial performance, the "lost" portions of Alessandro Scarlatti's 1720 *Vespers of Saint Cecilia* will finally receive their first Bay Area performance. Thanks to the championship of early music conductor Nicholas McGegan, who presided over the modern-day premiere of this beautiful music in Göttingen, Germany in 2001, our own Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra presents the *Vespers*' North American premiere April 15-18.

Saint Cecilia, revered by some as the Patron Saint of Music, has inspired music renowned as much for its elaborate writing as for its undeniable beauty. In her honor, Philharmonia Baroque will record the performances for major label release on St. Cecilia's Day, November 22, 2004. Given the importance of the occasion, McGegan has assembled a world-class group of soloists. Especially exciting is the soprano team of Dominique Labelle and Susanne Rydén.

Labelle, who first came to international attention as Donna Anna in Peter Sellers' striking telecast of *Don Giovanni*, has performed numerous times in the Bay Area. Rydén may be less known in these parts, but the glistening, radiant brilliance and warmth she shared in her last Philharmonia Baroque appearance makes her required listening for vocal-lovers. In addition to holding forth in the *Vespers*, Labelle performs Scarlatti's *Salve Regina* for solo soprano, while



Maestro Nicholas McGegan

Rydén joins countertenor Ryland Angel for Scarlatti's *Nisi Dominus* for soprano, countertenor and chorus.

For those under the illusion that life exists beyond sopranos, the male soloists hold equal promise. Countertenor Angel, who was born on St. Cecilia's Day, trained as a lawyer before deciding to pursue a professional singing career in 1991. That same year, bass-baritone Neal Davies won the Lieder Prize at the Cardiff Singer of the World Competition.

Tenor Michael Slattery is the youngest of the lot, having just made his Carnegie Hall debut singing Bach's *Magnificat* with the Orchestra of St. Luke's. His repertoire extends from Handel performances with Nic McGegan to works by 20th-century masters Weill, Britten, Floyd, Harbison, Stravinsky and Bernstein.

Although the music of Alessandro Scarlatti's brother

Domenico is quite well known, Alessandro's works have only been rediscovered in the last 10 or 20 years. Least known is the Sicilian composer's church music, which came to prominence as early as 1679, thanks to the patronage of Queen Christine of Sweden.

### Master's piece

Within a few more years, Scarlatti became *maestro di cappella* of the royal court of Naples. After a period of political intrigue and shifting positions, including unsuccessful attempts to crack the conservative hierarchy in Rome, the composer came into contact with Cardinal Francesco Acquaviva d'Aragona. Remembered as the Cardinal who consecrated and restored the Church of St. Cecilia in Trastevere, Francesco Acquaviva d'Aragona commissioned the *Vespers of St. Cecilia* from Scarlatti.

Philharmonia Baroque's premiere holds special significance. While Alessandro Scarlatti's operas and oratorios now receive regular performances, his sacred music still remains, for the most part, undiscovered. With their unearthing, the *Vespers of St. Cecilia* have become the only known complete surviving baroque Vespers cycle other than Monteverdi's *Vespers of the Virgin Mary*.

The work also represents the composer's mature style. Completed just four years before his death in 1725, the *Vespers* are distinguished by their many virtuosic vocal solo showpieces, written expressly to garner attention and praise for Scarlatti's star singers. Expect McGegan's soloists to earn equal praise.

Nicholas McGegan conducts the Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra in A. Scarlatti's *Vespers of St. Cecilia*, Thurs., April 15 in San Francisco's Herbst Theater, Fri. in Palo Alto's First United Methodist Church, and Sat. & Sun. in Berkeley's First Congregational Church. The church venues win the prize for acoustics. Tickets from (415) 392-4400 or [www.philharmonia.org](http://www.philharmonia.org).

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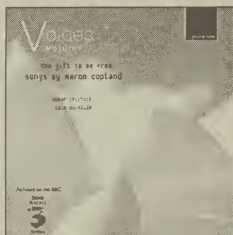
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# 'Tis a gift to be simple

## Copland song recital out on disc

by Jason Serinus

*The Gift to Be Free: Songs by Aaron Copland - Susan Chilcott, soprano; Iain Burnside, piano* (BBC Black Box)



The same year that Aaron Copland wrote his great American song-cycle *Twelve Poems of Emily Dickinson*, the FBI opened a Copland file. Three years later, the Jewish-American composer of such quintessentially American music as *Lincoln Portrait*, *Appalachian Spring*, *Rodeo*, and *Fanfare for the Common Man* was dodging questions about his commie-pinkie proclivities from Senator Joseph McCarthy, whose House Un-American Activities Committee served as a warm-up for John Ashcroft's terrorist-under-every-tree Patriot Act.

Highest accolades go to soprano Susan Chilcott and pianist Iain Burnside for this superb recital, with extra kudos to Burnside for discussing Copland's identity in the excellent liner notes. Chilcott recorded these songs while coming to terms with the cancer that killed her, last year, at 40. Chilcott and Burnside deliver performances of great immediacy, highly spirited in the more extroverted songs, deeply moving when expressing inward sentiments. Though Copland chooses not to

stretch his songs out to romantic lengths, his unpretentious musical statements evoke an America true to our collective experience.

The recital begins with the first set of *Old American Songs* that Copland penned in 1950. The romanticized masculinity of the rousing "Boatmen's Dance" paves the way for the composer's sly condemnation of politicians' lies, "The Dodger (Campaign Song)." Then, the much-loved "Long Time Ago" and traditional Shaker song "Simple Gifts," both arranged with understated artfulness, lead to "I Bought Me a Cat," a delightful, secular children's song with parallels to "The Twelve Days of Christmas." Chilcott may be English by birth, but besides a very occasional lapse into proper British vowels, her renditions are as idiomatic as they come.

Then we move into the deep stuff, *Twelve Poems of Emily Dickinson*. Copland's creations are

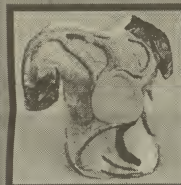
filled with passion that cries out to us. Chilcott's renditions of "I Felt a Funeral in My Brain," "Going to Heaven!" and "The Chariot" ("Because I could not stop for Death, He kindly stopped for me") convey a poignancy all the more palpable for her health challenges.

Three early Copland songs include "Night" (1918), from his student days, and the rare, atonal "Poet's Song" (1927), set to text by e.e. cummings. As is the case with Chilcott's "Heart, We will Forget Him" from the Dickinson set, her collaboration with Burnside on the beautiful "Pastorelle" (1921) focuses less on a gentle, heartfelt repose than on Copland's dissonant commentary. As much as I wish for a steadier opening to "Pastorelle," the added insight afforded by these tangy performances leaves me feeling like I've heard the songs anew.

Four Piano Blues for solo piano pave the way for Copland's second set of *Old American Songs*. "The Little Horses," "Zion's Walls," "At the River" and "Ching-a-Ring Chaw" have become American classics. Some may prefer a naïve, apple-pie voice, but the pain one feels when Chilcott sings "Hush you bye, don't you cry," or "Shall we gather by the river, Where bright angels feet have trod," elevates her singing to another dimension. This is a superb recital. ▼

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# All's fair in lies and war

by Victoria A. Brownworth

The Stephen King horror series on ABC *Kingdom Hospital* had nothing on the scenes from Fallujah last week. A decade ago, similar scenes ended the US military presence in Somalia. Nothing, apparently, will stop the US war in Iraq.

On April 2, it was revealed that the March 31 murders of four American security contractors were the result of a planned attack by so-called insurgents. They were ambushed, shot to death with Kalashnikov rifles, and then their bodies set on fire with gasoline. While the men's bodies were still burning, the corpses were pulled from the car by the so-called insurgents. (Do insurgents really wear white button-down shirts and suit pants?

These guys looked suspiciously like the ordinary citizens Dick Cheney said would welcome American troops with flowers.) Some of the insurgents danced with the corpses, then the bodies were dismembered and the heads displayed on a bridge. It was real reality TV.

Almost. Networks made the decision to obliterate the more grisly scenes: we saw the burning car and the insurgents pulling the bodies out, but the networks skewed the screen on the rest, just as they did on Janet Jackson's bared breast in the Super Bowl. Said one source, it would be in "poor taste" to show the actual desecration of American bodies.

Some would say the entire war on Iraq is in poor taste. Interestingly, there have been no such compunctions about showing incinerated bodies of Iraqis.

*Nightline* treated us, during the "embedded" part of the war, to a slew of dead Iraqis littering the roadside outside Fallujah. In good taste? Or just good propaganda?

We think the entire grisly scene should have been played without censorship, again and again. This is what is happening in Iraq, dear readers. Carnage. Mayhem. Hideous acts of unspeakable horror. If we don't look at it, we don't have to acknowledge the reality of it. Isn't it a necessity that network

execs throw their so-called good taste to the winds and show the massacre of real, live Americans? Otherwise it looks like the so-called liberal media is in the pocket of an Administration bent on election (we would say re-election, but since Bush wasn't actually elected...).

Even the conservatives were having a difficult time spinning the endless equivocations of National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice last week regarding the 9/11 hearings. *Nightline* appeared to be spoofing the Administration in its April 1 telecast when it spliced seven different appearances by Rice explaining why she couldn't testify before the Commission into one sentence. Bipartisan urging to have her testify has finally led to Rice appearing today, April 8, before the Commission. But until the decision was made, TV viewers were bombarded by her disinformation campaign against former Bush counterterrorism czar Richard Clarke, on every TV program except *American Idol*.

The dissing of Clarke continues; the Bush-Cheney team definitely knows how to use TV to mediate their message. Cheney has implied that Clarke is queer (or maybe a pedophile: we aren't certain what he means by a "weird" personal life) and stated outright that he "isn't a very good guy." Cheney also keeps saying and Rice keeps echoing that Clarke "wasn't in the loop" about the Bush team's decisions on terrorism. As Jay Leno noted in his April 1 monologue, isn't Clarke himself the loop?

TV has already caught Rice in one lie. On *60 Minutes*, she disputed Clarke's testimony about a discussion on September 12, 2001 in the White House situation room, in which Clarke was asked to find a link between al-Qaeda and Iraq. Rice stated smugly that the President wasn't in the situation room that day. Which prompted *Daily Show* host Jon Stewart to query: if 9/11 didn't constitute a situation, what did? Rice later backpedaled, explaining that she had "misspoken" (the Bush word for lying). Rice asserted the President was in the situation room, it just wasn't the conversation Clarke said it was. The spin is so fast and furious we need Dramamine.

Anyway, it doesn't really matter, because as Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld said in his *PrimeTime* interview last week, everyone who is in Iraq wants to be there. Let's ask them.

## Jerri curls

Is it any wonder we fled from such horrifying realities into the escapist reality of *Survivor*? The incredibly annoying Jerri finally

got voted off. (What took so long?) We can't wait to see what happens tonight as the fallout from that decision gets felt. Look for the proverbial fur to fly, courtesy of Boston Rob, Amber, Alicia and Lex. This season is so good.

Also seriously good is the midseason miniseries *The D.A.* on ABC. (The last episode airs tomorrow.) The excellent writing and superb cast led by Steven Weber and J.K. Simmons make it great to watch. Expect to see a full-length series come the fall.



## Lavender Tube

We object strenuously, however, to the gratuitous use of lesbianism in the second episode. This use of queerness has found its way into numerous drama series of late, and we find it distasteful.

This is not the way to integrate queer characters into the TV landscape. Not.

We also don't approve of the new use of gay-bashing/hate crimes as a means to integrate queer characters into dramas. *Cold Case*, CBS's neat little crime drama (Sundays), has explored this theme twice in recent weeks. We don't object to the premise, but we do object to the execution. The problem for us is that the victims are always lost in the storyline, which becomes almost wholly about the straight characters. In last week's episode, there were compelling queer characters — of color as well as white, drag queens as well as butch boys — and the murder victim was a baseball player from the University of Pennsylvania. But we disbelieve that the victim would be satisfied with simply arresting the perpetrators and letting the police who covered up the crime and the Mafia interests who set queers up for blackmail off the hook. Although this show is now produced and written in part by lesbian director Jan Osenberg, we think it isn't enough to write a formulaic plot when it comes to queer issues. We know Osenberg and the Jerry Bruckheimer team that produces the show can do better.

The same is true of CBS's *Without a Trace* and NBC's *Law & Order*, both of which have addressed the queer-bashing murder issue in exactly the same way.

Conversely, we were pleased to see the black lesbian couple from UPN's sitcom *Girlfriends* dealing with giving birth to their first child (the non-birth mother's brother donated the sperm and felt very proprietary over the baby). The complicated issues related to donor insemination were addressed, as well as the previous bisexuality of one of the women. We also like seeing queer characters on the almost all-black UPN network. *Half & Half* and *Eve* also feature queer characters.

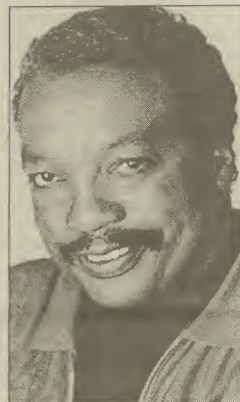
Speaking of queer characters having babies, can we stop torturing *All My Children*'s Bianca Montgomery (Eden Riegel) already? Daytime's only lesbian character has suffered endless drama, even by soap opera standards. This week found her baby being stolen and given to a deserving straight couple mere moments after its traumatic birth (in a flash-flood in a cabin). Let's re-cap: Her first lover was bought off by her mother, her second driven out of town by anorexia, her third murdered, her fourth

imprisoned right after they had sex. Then Bianca was raped and impregnated. She killed her rapist and decided to have the baby. Her mother deserted her. Now she's lost her baby.

Give the girl a steady lesbian girlfriend and get her baby back. Bianca should be allowed a semblance of a normal life at least for one soap cycle (13 weeks). Not all queer lives are filled with such drama.

## Code pink

*Frasier*, NBC's longest-running sitcom, has had its share of dramatic situations over the years, and has long been both overt and the most encoded queer show on TV. We will truly miss it when the show ends in May. The final episodes air in the coming weeks. *Friends* also ends in the coming weeks. For those who may have already forgotten, *Friends* had the first lesbian couple on a sitcom on prime time, and Candace Gingrich doing a guest spot as a queer preacher.



RIP Paul Winfield, great gay actor

In memoriam, we note the passing of a great gay actor and civil rights activist, Paul Winfield. Winfield died in March of a heart attack. He was predeceased by his lover of many years, Charles Gillian, Jr. Winfield was a protégé of Sidney Poitier, with whom he starred in several films. Nominated for an Oscar for his role in *Sounder*, Winfield became the third African-American actor to be nominated (following Paul Robeson and Poitier). Winfield also received Emmy nominations for his portrayal of Diahann Carroll's boyfriend in the sitcom *Julia*, the first sitcom to star a black actress, and for his roles in *Roots* and as Martin Luther King, Jr. in a TV miniseries. He won an Emmy for playing the edgy judge in the long-running David Kelley series *Picket Fences*. In addition to his many TV roles, Winfield also starred in stage productions and films. He was also involved in the black civil-rights movement since he was a teenager. His performances in *King*, *Sounder*, and *Roots* are available on videotape and DVD.

Finally, for pure frivolity in these bleak times, a VCR alert: Easter Sunday brings the debut on ABC of the *Nick & Jessica Variety Show*. We have adored Jessica Simpson's Gracie Allen-style stupid act on *Newlyweds*, *Saturday Night Live* and other programs. We loved Nick Lachey's queerer-than-queer cover of the April *Details*. They're being touted as the new Sonny & Cher. We agree, but add, *with talent*. Stay tuned. ▼

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# A dash of bitters

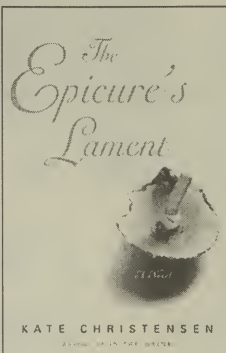
by Glen Helfand

*The Epicure's Lament* by Kate Christensen (Doubleday, \$23.95)

Hugo Whittier is exquisitely bitter. At the age of 40, he lives alone in a crumbling family estate in the Hudson River Valley, reads obscure classics, ogles the female clerk at the local convenience store, and chain-smokes his way to an impending doctor-certified death. As the protagonist of *The Epicure's Lament*, Kate Christensen's richly entertaining character Hugo is a tragicomic, acrid aesthete who takes his place in a literary pantheon beside Nabokov's Humbert Humbert and Patricia Highsmith's Tom Ripley. They're all guys whose pathologies entertain while indulging our own dreams of bad behavior.

Christensen makes her acerbic, emotionally stunted anti-hero go down a bit easier by making him a first-class foodie. His first-person notebook narrative is peppered with judicious passages of refined grocery-shopping and the preparation of rich, tasty meals.

Though he often refers adoringly to the picaresque, mid-20th-century food writings of M.F.K. Fisher (whom he calls "that uppity little slyboots of a voluptuary autodidact"), Hugo's culinary style is more Dr. Atkins carnivore than Alice Waters' organic chic. Hugo prepares late-night, *apres-sex* steak dinners, uses creamy Shrimp Newberg to smarmily



worm his way into his sister-in-law's home, and prepares a classic mincemeat-pie filling for the holidays. Chopped hearts also have not-so-veiled metaphorical significance here.

The food metaphor that the narrator resorts to most frequently, however, is *garum*, an ancient flavoring made from fish guts fermented in the sun. The stomach-turning recipe, which employs the corrosiveness of bile (something which our narrator possesses in abundance), results in a piquant, salty flavoring that Hugo also uses to describe his emotional state. He writes: "My rib cage is filled with a strong, caustic brew, and my bones are turning to jelly, my guts likewise liquefying, digesting themselves, giving rise to these thick, pungent, unspeakably reeking private thoughts."

When in this state, he retorts

with impudent, manipulative actions. Yet through the author's deft handling of her ingredients, he escapes disastrous results. Mind you, Hugo's behavior might make you squirm — not unlike Larry David's neurotic schlep in *Curb Your Enthusiasm*, a TV series that traffics in a similar self-absorption — yet you still manage to like the guy.

## Curdled way

Christensen clearly adores him, and apparently revels in such unsavory characters. The book-jacket blurb points to her self-coined genre of "loser lit," which definitely fits this volume. Her previous novel, *Jeremy Thrane*, is a richly drawn portrayal of an aging, semi-kept gay man who is faced with major life changes when he's dumped by his closeted movie-star boyfriend, and thrust from his loft aerie into the rattling world of post-9/11 Manhattan. *Epicure* has a similar trajectory, in which our complacent, introspective and cranky protagonist is unwittingly forced to face his curdled relationship to life.

Christensen so believably captures the male psyches of these characters. They're both like more lovable, more comedic versions of Highsmith's Tom Ripley. Hugo, for example, hustled lonely women in his youth, and in his unhappy adulthood meddles with his friends and family with the nasty zeal of a bitchy soap-opera villain, resorting to floating volatile personal information at opportune moments and even

hiring a hit-man to avenge a spurned lover (as well as acknowledge his own fatherly impulses). His out-of-touchness is punctuated by faint glimmers of a warm heart.

That the creator of this ultra-male character is a woman definitely colors our appreciation for this literary feat. Hugo's an obnoxious dude who relishes his addiction to cigarettes and his libido, and refers to an aging gay relative as "that fag Uncle Tommy" who is "no doubt dying of AIDS at over 70 years old after a happy lifetime of sticking his pecker up other men's rectums in bathhouses, gay bars, Fire Island

shares, bus-station men's rooms and countless other creepy homo fucky-fucky hotspots." Who would guess that the old guy would end up flirtatiously charming him?

While Uncle Tommy is a minor figure here, he serves to flip a stereotype — he's lighthearted and self-aware, while his straight nephew might as well be the bitter, mean queen. We all know the type, and can even appreciate his allure — especially from a distance. Yet as a gleeful indulgence into those dark feelings, *The Epicure's Lament* goes down with all the pleasure of a rich dessert that's best savored slowly. ▼

DIRECTED BY STEVEN SCARBOROUGH

AIDEN SHAW

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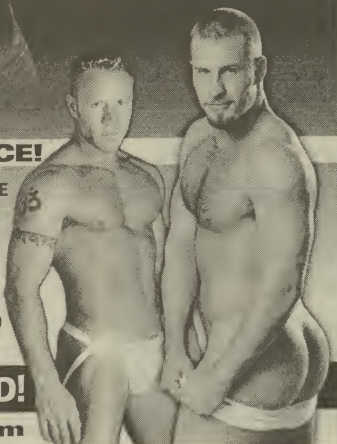
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## Judy Garland

◀ Arts cover

other two Gumm Sisters, seven-year-old Judy has a recognizable face and an unrecognizable screech of a kid's voice. The other performing kids (belters, acrobats and, get this, a troupe of tap dancers *en pointe*) are singularly and deliciously awful.

The five reissued movies span Judy's career (and suggest to me, with their inclusion of lesser titles among the gold, more releases to come). Spelling the treacle of the 1938 *Love Finds Andy Hardy*, the 15-year-old Judy belts three tunes while competing against Lana Turner for the attentions of Mickey Rooney. In the soap opera *Ziegfeld Girl* (1941), Judy competes against Lana Turner for the attention of Florence Ziegfeld. Adding to the movie's interest are the original Cap'n Andy, Charles Winninger, as Judy's dad; the cool allure of Hedy Lamar; and Al Shean recreating his classic vaudeville turn.

### Adult situations

Then, in 1942, Judy at 19 shows she can handle adult emotions by solidly grounding the backstage balderdash of *For Me and My Gal* with a nuanced performance. She also delivers a bundle of old-time hits, giving in "Ballin' the Jack" a complete preview of the sensational "Get Happy" number of her last MGM movie — here, for the first time, are that cocked hat and classy, abbreviated costume showing off racehorse legs. Extras here include another two Judy shorts — the throwaway *La Fiesta de Santa Barbara* with the Gumm Sisters, and *Every Sunday*, the career launcher



In the *Good Old Summertime* marked the screen debut of Liza Minnelli.

that contrasts Judy's swing with Deanna Durbin's chirp.

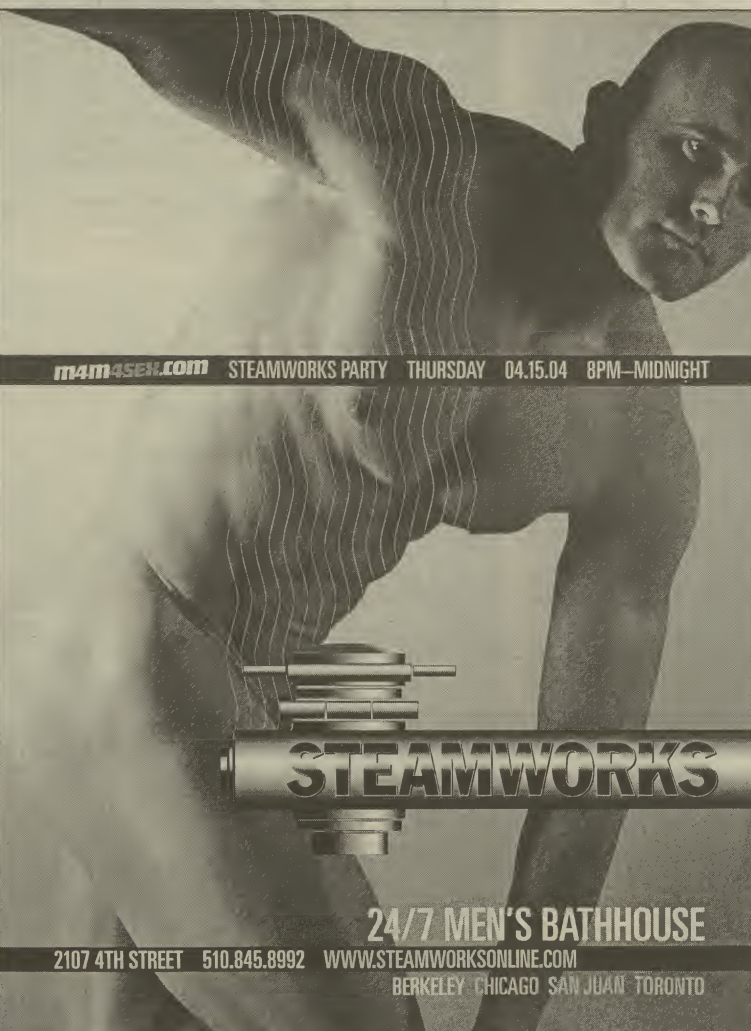
This DVD reissue series ends with Judy's penultimate MGM movie, 1949's *In the Good Old Summertime*. Judy's at her mature best in this sweet and unpretentious bon-bon. In the splashy turn of two vaudeville numbers, she wears an anachronistic but gorgeous off-the-shoulder evening gown in blazing red. It's her color. She looks smashing and performs with freewheeling exuberance.

The treasure of the bunch is undoubtedly 1944's *Meet Me in St. Louis*. Its idealization of family life at the turn of the century, states a commentator, is about "a time and a place and a condition that never existed." Yet suspension of disbelief isn't remotely necessary. Plush sets and warm color welcome us. But it's the persuasiveness of the performers, and particularly Judy, that disarms us from the first moment, and makes this movie famously entrancing. Twenty-one-year-old Judy didn't want to be in it at first. It was yet another teenage role. "I wanna

grow up!" she insisted, and at her first shoot, she buffooned the script. No, she was told, she had to take every word seriously. Her subsequent belief is wondrous to behold. It was also here that Judy was allowed, for the first time, to be glamorous. She's beguiling throughout, most so in a scarlet ball gown with balloon shoulders and revealing décolletage that she wears to a Christmas party. The boys in this movie ain't bad, either. Twenty-three-year-old, blond hottie Henry Daniels plays Judy's brother, and is even cuter than Tom Drake, the memorably sung-about boy next door. Both pale beside stunningly handsome stud Robert Sully, as Judy's future brother-in-law.

I had to watch all five movies back-to-back to write this article. Now that it's done, I'm going to watch them all again. And then I'll skip around and play just the numbers. Gosh, DVDs are swell. And it's swell having Judy on them. ▼

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## Royal shindig

by Sweet Lips

This Saturday night's *Investiture 2004: An Evening With Our Family* at the Swedish American Hall is a must-attend event for all the lords and ladies of The Imperial Council of San Francisco, led by Emperor Fernando and Empress China Silk. The gowns are always fabulous, and expectations will be high as the new Imperial Court for 2004 is announced. Come meet

your new rulers! You can get advance tickets at Marlana's. The Imperial Council of San Francisco, Inc. is the Founding Mother Court of the International Court System that was founded by Absolute Empress I Jose, the Grand Mere and the Widow Norton.

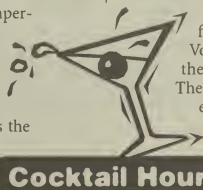
Have you noticed something fishy in the Castro? Yes, it's a great seafood restaurant called Catch,

where lovely Dennis Tyler entertained Dick Deemer and Yours Truly at a brunch last weekend (they do brunches both Saturday and Sunday). The food is excellent, especially the raw oysters. They're located at 2362 Market St. For reservations, call 431-5000.

Good news for fans of Club Rendez-Vous who were worried the place might close. The club has a new lease, extended to the end of the year, and then month by month. So drop in and raise a toast or two to their good fortune!

Just so you early-birds know, the only bar in the Castro that opens at 6 a.m. is the Pendulum, and on Monday and Tuesday the sexy Mr. Michael Valdez does the honors, so drop by and have a drink or two with this hunk.

Well, Yours Truly is recovering slowly but surely. Here's wishing you all a Happy Easter! ▼



# Getting intense with Ryan Gosling

Burning up the screen in 'The United States of Leland'

by David Lambie

Ryan Gosling is eating a room-service salad when my eyes first fall on him. When actors, especially young men, are not in costume for a role, they often like to flaunt their brief freedom to just be themselves. Rail-thin, with a shaggy dark-brown mop of hair that flows with no obvious break into a full beard, the 23-year-old Canadian attacks his food with gusto. He's rumored to be a chain-smoker, but he's trapped in a room whose single window is sealed shut.

The handful of movie buffs who have seen Gosling burn up the big screen in indie films like *The Believer*, *The Slaughter Rule* and the new, Kevin Spacey-produced *The United States of Leland* are struck by how this young man can combine the insouciant charm and matinee-idol looks of a young Paul Newman with the almost feral intensity of a young Sean Penn. There's also just a touch of Irish actor Colin Farrell's ability to negotiate a new accent and ethnic identity from role to role.

One of Gosling's major talents has been to flesh out a dazzling range of troubled boys. In Henry Bean's *The Believer*, Gosling's Danny Balint has the sad-eyed in-



Gosling as Leland: brutal stabbing

tensity of a soul whose complex love/hate relationship with his Jewish identity has sent him into a tailspin, emerging as a neo-Nazi skinhead. The film has moments of skin-crawling violence, as when Danny mugs a young Yeshiva student on a New York subway; and heights of Lenny Bruce-like comic absurdity, as he riffs on a monologue about the "sinister" influence of Jewish men on a range of activities, from land reform to oral sex. Gosling can make you feel like you've witnessed a man in the throes of an unbearable passion, a style of acting largely missing from the big screen since the '70s.

Ironically, this very ability to submerge himself in a role can be an obstacle to getting a shot at seemingly very different characters. Director/writer Matthew Hoge says at first he had a hard time seeing Gosling as the troubled but far less intense and articulate Leland P. Fitzgerald in Hoge's script for *Leland*. It's the story of a young man jailed for the brutal stabbing death of a mentally-retarded boy.

Hoge says Gosling walked into a casting meeting knowing "the script forward and backwards, even though he was told he didn't have a chance for the role. And when he spoke of the character, he was very protective of him, in the same way that I was."

At the core of Gosling's grasp of such characters may be his own lonely days trapped as a special-education student in Cornwall, Ontario, an isolated Canadian town known primarily for its paper mill and proximity to the St. Lawrence Seaway. Gosling says that while he wasn't learning to read or add, he was getting a grasp on the people around him. "I was always kind of outside of it and watching it all."

## Fanatic love

Coming from a Mormon family also helped him play characters who love perhaps too intensely.

# Gallows humor

'Wilbur' is suicidal

by David Lambie

In the new Scottish comedy *Wilbur*, two brothers place flowers at the grave of their freshly deceased father amidst a running debate about whether life is worth living. Harbour (the astri-gently ironic Adrian Rawlins) has a real talent for finding some hopeful side to the grimmest of news, while the misanthropic Wilbur (played against type by the darkly handsome Jamie Sives) sees worms in every apple.

"It's a bit of a shame that he's dead, isn't it?"

"He was crap towards the end."

"You really treated him nicely, you did."

"He hated me."

"He was as happy as a penguin for weeks after you came by. Otherwise he wouldn't have given you the bookshop, would he?"

"He didn't give me the bookshop."

"Sure he did. It's yours now. It was Dad's last request."

"He didn't make a last request. He just sat there dribbling."

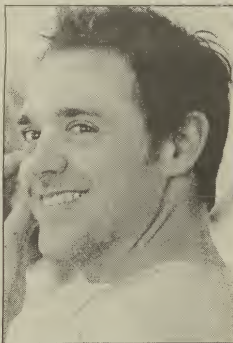
The disorderly bookshop (where volumes of cooking beat the works of Kipling) is one of two poles around which the sensational ensemble cast of *Wilbur* gravitates. The other is the hospital, whose world-weary and slightly eccentric staff seeks to undo the dastardly effects of the various tortures to which Wilbur subjects himself (gas, pills, razor blades and hanging). Inside its confines we meet the foreign-born psychiatrist who has little to say, the group-therapy nurse who says far too much, and the cleaning lady who is both terrible at

cleaning and obsessed with stealing books she can resell at the bookshop.

This first English-language film for Danish director Lone Scherfig (*Italian for Beginners*) and her co-writer Anders Thomas Jensen walks a fine line between making Wilbur a fully realized and at times extremely obnoxious character and using him as a device against which the other characters must butt their heads. Harbour's entire life consists of keeping Wilbur from doing away with himself. The hospital's staff and patients find themselves severely torn between saving Wilbur and expelling him as a penalty for his inability to successfully kill himself. As one punkish fellow patient shouts to Wilbur in therapy group, "Why don't you just die and let someone else take your place!" Like the late Billy Wilder, Scherfig and Jensen realize that life's messy truths sometimes only emerge in a high-speed collision between tragedy, melodrama and slapstick.

The final piece of this puzzle is a triangular love affair with more than vaguely incestuous implications. Alice the cleaning lady (Shirley Henderson in another of her mouse-who-learns-to-roar girlfriend roles) walks into the bookshop just in time to cut Wilbur down from the ceiling. With a 10-year-old daughter to raise, she allows herself to marry Harbour while she and Wilbur do far too much smooching behind the older brother's back.

Like other great film comedies that employ a character's flirting with suicide as a path to higher knowledge (*Parting Glances*, *The Apartment*, *Almost Famous*),



Jamie Sives plays against type.

*Wilbur* mines its laughs in what some may feel are the least appropriate moments. This is not the Hallmark greeting-card version of Suicide 101. ▼

"I'm not particularly religious, but I grew up with a lot of fanatics. They would have these testimonies on Sunday, amazing expressions of emotion, but there was always this kind of resentment against it, because they couldn't exist without it. They loved it so much that they hated it."

About the only nice guy that Gosling has played is also the character to whom gay audiences might best relate, if only they could see the film. Gosling's Roy Chutney in *The Slaughter Rule* is a Montana ranchboy mourning the death of a father he hardly knew. Roy comes face to face with a surrogate father, Gideon, a broken-down football coach who recruits boys like Roy, cut from the

high-school varsity team.

Gosling says that playing opposite David Morse, the actor who brings Gideon to life in all his troubling ambiguities, taught him how to listen as an actor. "David thought his character was not gay, that he had no attraction to these boys, sexually. I think he was so lonely that he needed to be physical. This was a really complicated thing to play, and it makes the character really unique."

Gosling says Roy's character is as lonely as Gideon, caught in an attraction/repulsion dynamic towards a man he needs but doesn't quite trust. "Roy felt totally betrayed that there was really nobody else in his life, nobody who loved him unconditionally." ▼

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# OUT&ABOUT

## Calendare

by Mark Mardon

### Hippety Bunny Variety

**V**iva Variety showman Steve Murray is a San Francisco treasure. Every month he scours the city for talent to showcase in his long-running, rave-receiving multi-genre revue, rounding up an always-surprising and delighting mix of acts. The show has a loyal following, and without advertising Murray has managed to pack houses since *VV's* inception. Coming up this Tuesday, April 12, *Viva Variety* returns for its 39th episode, once again at the funky **Buriel Clay Theater** located at the Center for African & African American Culture & Art at 762 Fulton St. (near Webster). One reason the show works is that *Viva Variety* audiences share a bond with Murray, whose rapport with the crowd and enthusiasm for the artists comes across as genuine and curiously strong. Plus Murray always dedicates a portion of the proceeds to worthy charities. This Tuesday's show will benefit the AIDS Health Project at UCSF. See the Tuesday O&A listing for the full talent line-up, and pay special attention to singer/songwriter rock-guitarist JP Cutler, who gave a kick-ass show at 12 Galaxies last week.

I've said it before, and it's still true: San Francisco is awash in astonishing talents, so many that new venues for their presentations are popping up constantly. One happening place is **The LGBT Community Center**, where this Saturday you can thrill to the "Hippety Hoppety Easter Special," presented as part of the **P.A. Cooley Variety Show**. Cooley, who's manic gay mannerisms have earned him a cult following, is joined by Lisa Geduldig (comedy), Matthew Martin (song, dance, theater, drag), the Lesbian/Gay Chorus of SF, singer Jackie Jones and more.

Of course it's Easter weekend, so you can either go to church, hang with the Sisters in Dolores Park (see Sunday listing) or party on Saturday night like a bunny! Writes party promoter **Greg Taylor** on his website [www.ggreg.com](http://www.ggreg.com): "Don't miss 'Bunny Jam'." That's an order. Unless you only go where you know there's a possibility you can get laid. One might suspect bunny ears to be an obvious known cause of erectile dysfunction. Unless you're a furry of course, in which case bring it on! Bunny Jam is one of the best whack-o events of the year. Bunny Jam is an Easter rabbit themed costume party, where participation is the norm, rather than the exception. If you don't bunny don't go. Last year of the 400 or so attendees I can recall only five or six people not in some form of bunny costume. There was even a Trekkie bunny. Oh the horror. My pal Jason El Diablo and I went as Bunny and Cher."

I love Greg, and his parties are absolutely the best. "Bunny Jam" happens at Bayview Winery, 3030 Ingalls St., on Saturday, April 10, 8pm til late. Tickets: \$10 Full-on-Bunny; \$15 Sum-Bunny; \$20 Un-Bunny. ▼



Heklina and Peaches Christ and a gaggle of drag queens/kings take the bus to Reno, Nevada, for a weekend of drag mania and gambling. See Saturday.

## Eri

### 'Mystery of Irma Vep' @ Berkeley Repertory Theatre

**Preview:** The Tony Award-winning Berkeley Repertory Theatre, founded in 1968, continues the 2003/04 Season with Charles Ludlam's outrageously theatrical cult classic, *The Mystery of Irma Vep*, directed by Associate Artistic Director Les Waters (*Big Love*; *Suddenly Last Summer*; *Yellowman*). A tour-de-force quick-change comedy for two actors playing more than 16 roles. Subtitled "A Penny Dreadful" (the name for cheaply printed paperback books of adventure or mystery popular in the 19th century), *Irma Vep* is a comic send-up of Victorian melodrama and classic horror films featuring such characters as a werewolf, a vampire and an Egyptian mummy. Borrowing from Joyce, Wilde, Poe and Ibsen, classic horror movies, Gaslight, *Wuthering Heights*, Gothic novels and the movie *Rebecca*, Ludlam's witty literary allusions and subversive political jabs take the play far beyond campy slapstick comedy to make it an enduring modern classic. While he has been compared with Shakespeare and Molière, Charles Ludlam was an "underground" artist whose entire aesthetic was about tearing down tradition and the cultural elite. Single tickets \$39-\$55 (depending on day of week). Group discounts available; also student and senior half-price "Rush" tickets. Twenty half-price "HotTix" go on sale at noon at the Berkeley Rep Box Office Tue.-Fri. for that evening's performance (cash only). \$20 tix for anyone under the age of 30 (with valid ID; subject to availability; not offered for Sat. night). The production previews beginning April 9, opens April 14 and closes May 23. Berkeley Rep's Thrust Stage, 2025 Addison St. (one block from Berkeley's downtown BART station, close to AC Transit bus lines). Theatre accessible to the handicapped, offering wheelchair seating and special services for the visually and hearing impaired. Tix: Berkeley Rep Box Office at 510-647-2949 or toll free at 888-4BRTTix. Info: [www.berkeleyrep.org](http://www.berkeleyrep.org)

**'Sound of Music Sing-A-Long' @ Landmark Theatre, Berkeley**  
Exclusive East Bay Engagement — 7 Shows Only. "Sing-A-Long Sound of Music," featuring Connie Champagne live as emcee of the Smash Hit Interactive Show and Worldwide Phenomenon that

will have you singing in the aisles or perhaps on center stage. Audiences of all ages invited to join in singing some of the best-known songs of the 20th century and to dress up as their favorite character, item or even line from a song for a one-of-a-kind interactive event and costume contest. Before movie begins, recording/cabaret artist Connie Champagne as mistress-of-ceremonies leads the crowd through warm-up group activities, including hand gestures and motions that add to the fun of watching the film. Complimentary audience "Fun Packs" containing themed props allow crowds of all ages to become part of the beloved, song-filled classic. What's in the pack? Come and find out! At each performance, the costume competition pits "Nuns" and "Marias" against "Brown Paper Packages Tied Up With String" and "Raindrops on Roses." The possibilities are endless. \$15 adults; \$10 children ages 12 & under and Seniors 65 & over. Family Fun Ticket \$40 (admits 2 Adults and 2 Children ages 12 & under, a savings of \$10). 7pm Fri.-Thu., April 9-15; matinees at 1:30pm on Sat. 4/10 & Sunday 4/11. No shows on Sun. & Mon. evenings 4/11-12. Landmark California Theatre, 2113 Kittredge St. (at Shattuck). Berkeley. Tix: 866-468-3399; [www.ticketweb.com](http://www.ticketweb.com); [www.singalonga.com](http://www.singalonga.com)

### 'The Sweet New' @ EXIT Stage Left

Raymond Red, director of the award-winning short, *Straightboy Lessons*, in conjunction with Density Over Duration Productions presents: *The Sweet New*, a new play with a new look at transsexuality. Leo has come to America to escape the rising tide of Italian fascism. Lorenzo wants to be seen as simply "American." And Kyle is in the process of a transsexual transition. All three struggle with the politics of who gets to define who we are. This new work looks at transsexuals in the mainstream, integrates transsexuality and other life-altering change, and ultimately finds the common ground of humanity and political struggle. "Leo: My son is more Italian than you are and he's not even Italian."

"Kyle: I just became myself. Jamie: Isn't that a change?" Featuring: Don DeMico, Catz Forsman, Damian Kalish, Natalie Palan, Cassie Powell, Charlie Reeves, Jeremy Sawyer. Written and Directed by Raymond Red. \$15-20 sliding scale. Pay what you can April 29th. Thurs and Saturdays, first three weekends: April 9-10, 16-17, 23-24. Thurs, Fri, Sat last two weekends: April 29, 30 and May 1, 6, 7, 8. All shows at 8pm. EXIT Stage Left, 156 Eddy St (at Taylor & Mason, close to the Powell St Muni/BART Station). Tix: 415-648-3091 or [doverprod@earthlink.net](mailto:doverprod@earthlink.net)

lor & Mason, close to the Powell St Muni/BART Station). Tix: 415-648-3091 or [doverprod@earthlink.net](mailto:doverprod@earthlink.net)

### Happy/L.A. Hyder Open Studio

Open studio by Happy/L.A. Hyder, "a self-taught American-Lebanese photographer, assemblage and installation artist... founder and Director of LVA: Lesbians in the Visual Arts" ([www.queerarts.org](http://www.queerarts.org)). Said the late, great queer-arts curator Adrienne Fuzze: "The essential nature of [Hyder's] photographs details the primary force of Hyder's 'lesbian gaze' — her lesbianism is not separate from her artistry — a particularly sensitive outdoor informs all her work." Hyder will be showing intricate, engaging color photographs of natural and architectural detail that transport her viewer out of the mundane and into an erotic of place and space. Visit today 4-8pm or Sat. 11am-6pm. 386 Noe St. (at 17th St.). Info: 415-252-9230.

### Maiana Minahal's 'before their words' @ Jon Sims Center

Jon Sims Center for the Arts presents the second performance of "before their words," a work-in-progress by AIRspace artist-in-residence Maiana Minahal, a queer Filipina American poet and teacher, born in Manila, raised in Los Angeles, and currently living in SF. "before their words" (a work in progress) is a collaborative, interdisciplinary, multimedia poetry performance that combines subversive, poetic narrative with indigenous pre-colonial Philippine cultural traditions and art forms. Utilizing Philippine dance (Singkil), martial arts (Kali), and music, the larger poetic narrative unfolds as the (queer) re-telling of the Philippine folktale of Sandoval, the village woman who battles the wind goddess to re-claim her stolen husband. Featuring Michelle Bautista and Nedjula Bagio. Performance followed by discussion allowing the audience and artists to speak directly with one another. \$10-\$15 sliding (NOTAFLOF). 8pm. Jon Sims Center for the Arts, 1519 Mission St. (btwn 11th St. and South Van Ness). Tix: 415-554-0402; [jonsimsctr.org](mailto:jonsimsctr.org)

**Levender Seniors of the East Bay**  
Lavender Seniors, a group for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgenders over 55, will hold their monthly potluck at 12 noon. They also seek volunteers of all ages to work with socially isolated seniors. San Leandro Community Church, 1395 Bancroft Ave., San Leandro. Info/rides from BART: 510-667-9655.

meet dancer/choreographer Joanna Haigood (co-creator with architect Wayne Campbell of the recent "Ghost Architecture" dance installation at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Forum; founder of Zacco Dance Theatre; her dances use natural, architectural and cultural environments as a point of departure for movement exploration and narrative); composer, visual artist, DJ and instrument builder Walter Kitundo (his elemental turntables rely on wood, water, fire and earthquakes for their power and pitch); and Optical Illusionist Ricardo Rivera (uses devices such as the camera obscura and anamorphic projections). Free with admission (\$12 adults; \$9.50 students/seniors). Open house: 1-4pm. Museum hours: 10am-5pm Tue.-Sun. Exploratorium, 3601 Lyon St. Info: 415-563-7337; [exploratorium.edu](http://exploratorium.edu)

### 'Hippety Hoppety Easter Special' @ The Center

Theatre Rhinoceros and The Center present The P.A. Cooley Variety Show "Hippety Hoppety Easter Special." Lots of funnies with chocolate bunnies. Hosted by the multi-talented and ever-popular P.A. Cooley, with Drew Todd as co-host. Featuring comedienne Lisa Geduldig, the Lesbian/Gay Chorus of SF, singer Jackie Jones, performer extraordinaire Matthew Martin, and special guests. The P.A. Cooley Variety Shows are created to showcase the diversity and range of talent within the performing LGBT community. \$20. 8pm. SF LGBT Community Center, 1800 Market St. (at Octavia). Tix/info: 415-861-5079 (Wed.-Sun. 1-6pm); [www.therhino.org](http://www.therhino.org)

### 'Private Exiles' @ JSC

JSC/Alchemy Emerging Playwrights presents a developmental reading of "Private Exiles," a play-in-progress by Mark Crouse, exploring the lives of three men that collide when one of them — a respected scout leader — is expelled upon his public disclosure of his homosexuality. The court trial the ensues reveals the skeletons of a Mormon family man, as well as the fragile nature of the third man's open relationship. Discussion with playwright follows reading. 2pm. Jon Sims Center for the Arts, upstairs at 1519 Mission St. (btwn 11th St. & South Van Ness).

### 'Reversing Vandalism' @ Koret Auditorium, Main Library

Special presentation: "Reversing Vandalism: The Art of Altered Books," a program related to the stunning exhibition "Reversing Vandalism," now on display in the Library's Jewett Gallery through May 2. The content and execution of the exhibit is nothing less than brilliant! More than 200 original works of art were created from books mainly on GLBT topics, women's issues and HIV/AIDS, that were destroyed by a vandal and then withdrawn from the SF Public Library's collection. Artists and concerned individuals from around the country worked to turn the damaged books into works of art. The wide variety of responses to this hate crime vividly demonstrate the transformative power of art. Free. 1-2:30pm. Koret Auditorium, Lower Level, SF Main Library, 100 Market St. (at Grove). Info: [www.sflpl.org](http://www.sflpl.org)

### Investiture 2004' @ Swedish American Hall

The Imperial Council of San Francisco with Their Most Imperial Majesties The Red Heart Latin Emperor Fernando & The True Blue Heart of Love & Compassion Empress China Silk present "Investiture 2004: An Evening With Our Family," at which the new Imperial Court for 2004 will be presented. Special command performances by Vikki, Anji and the Fauxgirls. \$10 advance at Marlena's (488 Hayes St.). \$15 door. 8pm. Swedish American Hall, 2174 Market St. (above Café Du Nord). Info: Absolute Empress XXV, Marlena, at 864-6672; [www.imperialcouncilsf.org](http://www.imperialcouncilsf.org)

### 'Trannyshack Reno Road-Trip' @ Visions, Reno

Heklina presents the seventh annual "Trannyshack Reno Road-Trip" on Easter weekend, April 10-11. Kick it with San Francisco's most flamboyant and irreverent drag queens, drag kings, faux queens, etc. in the biggest little city in the world; Reno, Nevada. The show is the focal point around which an entire adventure awaits. Peaches Christ is the tour guide of a round-trip bus journey, complete with an on-board fashion show, video entertainment, live performance, and more. Enjoy participating in cultural liberation at rest-stops and fast food restaurants. Return-trip tradition dictates that prizes be awarded for best drag, most original, and drunkest. Bus departs from SF at noon on Saturday. Passengers will enjoy fabulous accommodations at the Cal Neva Hotel Casino for their overnight stay. The Trannyshack Reno show happens at midnight at the dance club Visions (340 Kietz Lane, about 5 minutes from the center of town); the Trannyshack bus will drive everyone there at 11pm, and wait to drive people back. Taxi's will also be readily available. Bus passengers will check-out on Sunday morning and head to Boomtown for Easter brunch and last-minute gambling. The busses will then head back to SF for a Sunday evening arrival. \$100 tickets include round-trip coach bus fare, a one night stay at the Cal Neva Hotel, and admission to the Trannyshack show at Visions. Tickets go on sale March 1st, 2004 and are available for purchase at the Bridge Theatre, 3010 Geary Blvd, 415-751-3213. Cash and persona checks accepted. Tickets will also be available at select Trannyshack shows on 3/2 & 3/9. Tix/info: [www.peacheschrist.com](http://www.peacheschrist.com)

### 'No George W. Bush!' @ Lit

"No George W. Bush!" A benefit for Indivoter.org, to mobilize young progressive voters for November and beyond. Featuring comedians Lisa Geduldig and Doug Holsclaw, stage sensation Trauma Firststone, and post-punk band Astral. Anti-Bush mash-ups by DJ Domino. \$5 donation. 8-10pm. Followed by "Vanguard," with DJ Domino spinning electropop (10pm-2am; no cover). At Lit, 101 Sixth St. (at Mission). Info: 415-278-0940; [www.geocities.com/no-georgewebush](http://www.geocities.com/no-georgewebush)

### Queer Ballroom Party @ Synergy School

Queer Ballroom lessons and party. No experience or partner needed. 7pm country 2-step lesson. 8pm Argentine Tango lesson. 9pmOminidisc dancing to a variety of music. \$10 donation (half off under 21 or Wed. swing students). Tix/info: 415-305-8242; [www.queerballroom.com](http://www.queerballroom.com)

## Sun

### 'Wicked Messenger 4.11'

@ The Dark Room  
"Wicked Messenger 4.11," the 21st century variant kabaret, being a benefit for Big Burlesque's Heather MacAllister. Featuring: The Lollies with Kitten on the Keys, Dattner, Karuna Tanahashi, Roky Roulette, butch Greenblatt, and Larry, Hall & Jack (that's Larry-bob Roberts' new music act). Hosted by Sherilyn Connelly. Catered by Ya Mo Thai Kitchen at 18th and Mission. Oh hell yeah. \$5. 7pm. 18-. At the Dark Room (former location of Mission Records), 2263 Mission St. (btwn 18th & 19th). Info: [www.sfgoth.com](http://www.sfgoth.com) — [sherilyn@wickedmessenger.com](mailto:sherilyn@wickedmessenger.com)

### The Sisters' 25th Anniversary @ Dolores Park

The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, Inc. will be celebrating their 25th Anniversary with a party in Dolores Park this Easter Sunday, beginning with an egg hunt and cup-cake walk at 10:30am for the kiddies. The party progresses at noon and throughout the afternoon with the addition of DJ Licious and DJ James Smith providing just the right sounds to highlight fantastic performances from Polkadeo, Ethel Merman and Luciano Popparazzi, Mr. SF Leather '96 Gary

## Sat

### Artists in Residence @ Exploratorium

The Exploratorium's Learning Studio hosts an open house for the current artists-in-residence. Come

Virginia and Empress Donna Sachet, Oblong, featuring Birdie-Bob Watt and Davidmahr, Empress Cockatiella and Supositori Spelling, and Lipstick Conspiracy. Of course, no Sister Anniversary celebration would be complete without the traditional Easter Bonnet Contest and the finale of crowning our newest Hunky Jesus! And much, much more. Free. 10am. Dolores Park (btwn 18th & 19th, Church & Dolores streets).

## Mon 12

### Bob Smith/'QComedy' @ The Center

Comedian Bob Smith hosts Monday Night Comedy at the Center, with guests Doug Holclaw, Angie Krass, Maggie Dolan, Kelly Doyle, Tom Smith, and Bridget Schwartz. Bob Smith is the author of the best-selling collection *Openly Bob*, winner of the 1998 Lambda Literary Award and *Way To Go Smith*. He is the first openly gay comedian to appear on *The Tonight Show* as well as to star in his own HBO special. Bob has written for *The Advocate*, *OUT*, and the *Los Angeles Times Magazine*. He has also written for the MTV Video Awards, among numerous other shows for television. Bob grew up in Buffalo, New York, and now lives in Los Angeles. Sliding Scale \$8-\$15 cash, no one turned away. Reception is at 7:30 pm and the show starts at 8 pm. LGBT Community Center at 1800 Market St. at the crossing of Octavia. Info: 415-541-5610; [www.QComedy.com](http://www.QComedy.com)

## Tue 13

### 'Viva la Joteria' @ Modern Times Bookstore

QueLaCo y Elias en Acción present "Viva la Joteria," a night of poetry and prose by Bay Area-based Queer Latina/o writers, featuring Cathy Arellano and Bertha Amador, most recently seen together in *The Size of Her Rage*, a collaborative/creative approach to building community and discussing domestic violence among lesbian couples. Hosted by local chismosa & former Latin Hustle member Lito Sandoval. QueLaCo is a nonprofit that supports LGBT Latina/o artists. Elias en Acción is an organization dedicated to political, educational, cultural advancement of Latina Lesbians and bisexual women. Free. 7:30pm. 888 Valencia St. Info: 415-282-9246; [moderntimesbookstore.com](http://moderntimesbookstore.com)

### 'Viva Variety 39' @ Buriel Clay Theatre, Center for African-American Culture & Art

San Francisco's longest running variety show presents its five-year anniversary show! *Viva Variety 39*, "the loudest tick in town," will benefit the AIDS Health Project of UCSF, whose mission is to provide culturally sensitive counseling and education to stop the spread of HIV infection, and to help people face the emotional, psychological and social challenges of living with HIV disease. Hosted by Steve Murray, "the new Ed Sullivan." Featuring an eclectic mix of the finest performers from dance, performance arts, physical circus, comedy, theatre, spoken word, and music. Tonight: Philip Jones & Monique Goldwater (modern dance); Wesla Whitfield & Mike Greensill (award-winning cabaret artist, second VV appearance); Dot Jones & Peanut (variety duo); featuring Betsy Salkind; Cara Vida (chanteuse); Rusty Hips (2003 Drag King winner, third VV appearance); The Tami Show (original music, second VV appearance); Diamond Daggers (burlesque dance); JP Cutler and Adam Blomberg (original music); Will Franken (comedy); and Matthew Martin. \$15 (\$10 student/senior). 8pm. Buriel Clay Theatre, 762 Fulton St. (at Webster). Call: 415-863-0741 ext. 2; [www.vivavariety.org](http://www.vivavariety.org)

### 'Imposter Night' @ Trannyshack

Nikki Star of "Fauxgirls" fame hosts the return of "Imposter Night," the evening when everybody trades places. Is that the real



"Viva Variety 39" showcases the best with Ventriloquist Dot Jones & Peanut (above) performing with Betsy Salkind, Philip Jones, Wesla Whitfield & Mike Greensill, Cara Vida, Rusty Hips, The Tami Show, Diamond Daggers, JP Cutler and Adam Blomberg and Will Franken at Buriel Clay Theatre. See Tuesday.

Nikki Star, or just an imposter? You decide. DJ Derek on the decks. MISS Chocolate at the door. \$7. 10pm-3am (show at midnight). The Stud Bar, 9th & Harrison. Info: [heklina.com](http://heklina.com)

### 'Marrakech Express' @ Istituto Italiano di Cultura

Tuesday night film series at the Italian Cultural Institute showcases "Films by Gabriele Salvatores" through April and May. Tonight: *Marrakech Express* (1989; 111 min) by Salvatores with Diego Abatantuono, Camille Cedeno and Fabrizio Bentivoglio. Teresa and a group of friends scrape money together to bail Teresa's boyfriend out of jail in Marrakech. They soon find themselves on an adventure in the heart of Africa. In Italian without subtitles. Free. 6:30pm. 425 Washington St. (btwn Sansome/Battery). Info: 415-788-7142.

## Wed 14

### Jeff Greenwald @ The Marsh

The Marsh's San Francisco Treasure Series kicks off a seven-performance run of Jeff Greenwald's "Strange Travel Suggestions." Inspired by the vagaries of wanderlust and drawing from his decades of travel, Greenwald brings a kind of kismet quality into his travel(mono)logues. \$15-\$22. 8pm. Show runs April 14, 21, 28, May 5, 12 (artist reception; tickets \$25-\$50), 19 & 26. The Marsh, 1062 Valencia St. (near 22nd). Tix/info: 415-826-5750; [the-marsh.org](http://the-marsh.org)

### 'Bootie' @ Cherry Bar

Adrian and the Mysterious D ("Guilty") present "Bootie," the only monthly bootie party in America, spinning old-timey, bastard pop, and unofficial remixes. Special guest DJ Stink spins his own custom mash-ups. Plus: Party Ben ("Sixx Mixx") half-hour mix show Fridays 6pm on LIVE 105; [www.partyben.com](http://www.partyben.com) and DJ Dada (rock mash-ups from 9-10pm). Midnight mash-up show with Princess Kennedy, Steven Satyricon, and Bea Dazzler. Enter the "Dress Like A Pirate" contest. Best pirate-inspired outfit wins a complete set of eight Bootie CDs, plus lots of other booty! Aaaargh! So what's the hell is a bootie? What's a mash-up? It's pretty much all the same. Also known as "bastard pop," a bootie is a song that's "mashed-up." This usually

used in some of the sets is disdainful and derogatory, such as "Chinee," "Allesammee," and "Ah Sin." Equally disturbing are the lyrics aiming to mimic Chinese speech patterns. Hear some of this music at a listening station. Contemporary elements include record and CD covers depicting stereotypical images of Chinese Americans. Free. 5-8pm. Exhibit runs thru May 12 (Mon.-Wed. 10am-6pm; Thu.-Fri. 10am-3pm). Cesar Chavez Student Center Art Gallery, Terrace Level, SFSU. Info: 415-338-2580; [www.sfsu-studentcenter.com/artgallery](http://www.sfsu-studentcenter.com/artgallery)

### 'Antigone Falun Gong' @ Aurora Theatre, Berkeley

Opening night: Aurora Theatre Company presents Cherylene Lee's *Antigone Falun Gong*, an adaptation of Sophocles' great tragedy, re-set in contemporary China by Bay Area playwright Cherylene Lee, author of *The Legacy Codes*. Exploring the rights of the individual, how the past connects to the present, and how there may be more to America's global reach than we imagine. *Antigone Falun Gong* dramatizes the story of a lone woman defying a government in a beautifully unique and provocative way. Directed by David Furumoto. Utilizing forms of Tai Chi, Wu Shu, Kung Fu, Chinese Opera movement and the five exercises from the cultivation practice known as Falun Gong, *Antigone Falun Gong* portrays a war between differing values. In search of answers about her dead father and brothers, headstrong Antigone publicly challenges her uncle, the new Magistrate, by practicing the Falun Gong exercises openly in the city square, which is forbidden by the government. Featuring Bonnie Akimoto as Antigone and director David Furumoto as the Magistrate, with Randall Nakano, Michael Ching, and Michael Cheng, plus dancers Frances Cachapero and Raul Johnson. \$28-\$36. 8pm Wed.-Sat.; 2pm & 7pm Sun. Thru May 16. Aurora Theatre, 2081 Addison St., Berkeley. Tix/info: 510-843-4822; [www.aurora-theatre.org](http://www.aurora-theatre.org)

### SF Int'l Film Festival @ Castro Theatre + Galleria at Showplace Square

Opening night: The 47th San Francisco International Film Festival (April 15-29) kicks off with a 7pm screening at the Castro Theatre of *Coffee and Cigarettes* by Jim Jarmusch, consisting of 11 vignettes the indie icon has written and directed since 1986 and finally assembled into a surprisingly cohesive whole. Then it's on to the Galleria at the SF Design Center (101 Henry Adams St.) for a grand party from 9:30pm to midnight. Explore eclectic vignettes on each floor of the glamorous four-story glass palace. Plus great food from 18 Bay Area restaurants and food purveyors, free-flowing drinks, live music with Mingus Amungus and of course much dancing and revelry. SF Film Society Memberships range \$55-\$1,350. Film & Party: \$85/\$75; Vip Film & Party: \$125. Tix/info: [www.sffs.org](http://www.sffs.org)

### Berkeley Rep's 'night/OUT'

Berkeley Rep presents "night/OUT," a program for the Bay Area LGBT community to see Tony Award-winning theatre and to meet others who love the arts. Tonight's performance of *The Mystery of Irma Vep* will be followed by a fabulous party for the LGBT community. \$20-\$43 show & party. 8pm. See Friday Listing for show details.

## WANNA SUBMIT?

Send your calendar event listings to:

Mark Mardon  
Out & About  
Bay Area Reporter  
395 Ninth Street  
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Deadline is the Friday before issue date.

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# Kinky in the heartland

## Leather/bdsm play in Indianapolis

by Mister Marcus

It is gratifying to know that the leather/bdsm community is alive, thriving and well in the heartland of America. Last weekend, I was privileged to judge the Indiana Leather Sir/boy contests in Indianapolis. Hosted/produced by IMs.L Tammie Nelson, a platoon of volunteers and talent banded together to produce a "feeder" contest for the Great Lakes Leather Sir/boy regional contest taking place later this year.

Let's face it. Not all the "action" occurs on either the East or West Coasts. The vast distance between the coasts has an equal number of people into the leather/bdsm lifestyle and it was on display all weekend in Indianapolis.

True, there were only three contestants (2 boys, 1 Sir) for this 2nd edition, but the enthusiasm of the people in attendance from throughout the area was forceful, encouraging and real.

It was fun judging with Dennis McMahon, Rick "Titusboy" Mansfield, Jerry Roseberry, Gary French, Daniel Clark and Jon Krongaard. Terry Snodgrass and Ms. Ruby were forceful masters of ceremonies, and tally master Michael Daniels dispatched the results in record time.

Some \$1,400 was raised during auction and raffles. Pup Taber served the judges well. Auctioneer Glen Paul Strange wasted no time alleviating the crowd of their excess dollars, and the drag entertainer did just that — entertained with aplomb.

The contestants, Sir Paul Brown, boy Zack, and boy John breezed through the various categories with little difficulty and a sense of humor in the jock/question segments. The fantasies were run-of-the-mill, but the winners were advised that more enthusiastic efforts should take place in the Great Lakes Regional competition taking place in August, orchestrated by Ms. Kendra.

The emcees, Terry Snodgrass and Ms. Ruby, did an admirable job and injected a fair amount of humor as they worked with the producers, the contestants, the judges and the



Paul Brown (standing) of Evansville, Indiana was chosen Indiana Leather Sir, and John Schmitt of Indianapolis was chosen Indianapolis Leather boy 2004, last Saturday, April 3rd. They advance to compete for the Great Lakes Regional titles in August.

crowd. The contest didn't start until a little after 2300 and it was all over by 2:20 in the morning.

And the results? Well, Sir Paul of Evansville, Indiana managed to accumulate the 70 percent of the available scores to win the Mr. Indianapolis Sir 2004 title and boy John of Indianapolis took the boy title. They advance to compete at the Great Lakes Regional competition later this year.

It was a pleasurable foray into Mid-America for me. Indianapolis is not to be disregarded because of

its geographical location. It's just as kinky in Indy as it is in New York, Los Angeles, Dallas, San Francisco or Washington, D.C. You should make a point of visiting there at your earliest opportunity. Tammie Nelson and her volunteers rate high on the list of "a job well done."

### Chest calendar nears end

The 10th round of the **SOMA Bare Chest Calendar** for 2005 took place last Thursday, April 1st at the Powerhouse. It was somewhat disheartening to see only one man step forward to compete; nevertheless, Mitch Marks had enough

next page ►



Leather

## EVENTURES IN LEATHER

### Weekend, April 9-11

Mr. Chicago Leather 2004 contest at the world-famous Touche' Bar on Chicago's North side. I'll be there judging so look for the results here next week.

### Friday, April 9

Leather/Uniform night at Renegades in San Jose; it's also Leather Masters 15th anniversary so a big celebration is planned. Congrats to David Carranza and his hunky husband, Tony!!

### Sunday, April 11

It's Easter Sunday and there's an Easter Basket Auction at Daddy's from 1600-2000 to benefit the Stop AIDS Project. \$8 beer/soda bust, raffles, entertainment, hosted by Tony Koester.

### Tuesday, April 13

Get all tied up at Bondage Buddies tonight, 933 Harrison. You know the rules. If not, call 777-HEAD for details.

### Weekend, April 16-19

American Brotherhood Weekend in Washington, DC this weekend to choose American Leather Man,

Woman, Boy and Girl. All the "usual suspects" will be on hand including a plethora of IML 2004 contestants.

### Thursday, April 15

Lenny Broberg will emcee the bare chest calendar contest at the Powerhouse tonight at 2130. It should be a riot. Be there.

### Friday, April 16

The Castro Lions host a beer/soda bust at the Loading Dock tonight for their charitable fund which includes "romantic bondage", ice & hot wax demos from about 2100 on.

Exiles of SF present BDSM & Disabilities at the Women's Building with a panel of disabled women expounding on their kinks (and yours). This one should be interesting. \$3 for members, \$6 for guests,

### Saturday, April 17

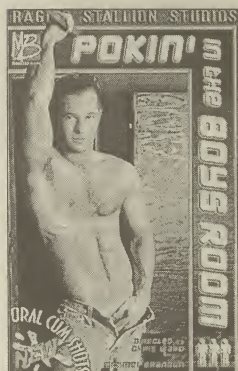
The annual Golden Dilleaux Awards presented at the Eagle tonight with a \$8 beer/soda bust, fun galore with Lenny Broberg and Donna Sachet trashing all the trashy people among us. Always a night of fun.

## PORN

# Power screw

by John F. Karr

Two special things about *Pokin' in the Boys Room*, the new Monster Bang feature from Raging Stallion Studio. It's a consistently believable enactment of one of Michael Brandon's more improbable fantasies. Get this: a couple gay guys run a joint patronized by studly straight guys, who ditch their girlfriends at the bar to have up-against-the-wall sex with each other in the john. Yet Brandon's cast can really, you'll pardon the expression, pull it off. They're mighty persuasive, both at playing straight, and sexing gay. Suspension of disbelief? I never heard of such a thing.



*Pokin' in the Boys Room* is also the first film made by a mainstream, American porn company in over a decade that delivers oral cum shots. Really exciting ones, at that. After years of spilling its seed everywhere but the proper receptacle, the porn industry is beginning to get it right once more. Thank you, Raging Stallion. Everybody, altogether now: Please, sir; I want some more.

Co-director (with Chris Ward) Brandon appears alongside an impressive cast. It bountifully features the tight athletic body of Tag Adams, along with big-in-all-ways Mario Ortiz. The five newcomers will have you screaming, Encore! Erik Campbell is a lone, lithe black man. Jason Dean is lanky, chiseled. Taurus is a rambunctious, snarling pug imported from France, while



Montaz has an outstanding tattoo.

bearded, wiry Peter Pfalz and the stunning Montaz come from Germany. I've been whispering "Montaz" like a mantra since I've seen him. He's a looker. Not too pretty, not too well-built. Just real nice: comfortably natural. It's his tattoo that ensorcells, makes you wanna freeze-frame. It's outrageously erotic. As feathery as the crest of a wave, it curls around his torso, flows over his hips down to his groin, then meanders sinuously halfway along his silky cock. Leaves me breathless, mouth agape. That's some ink I'd sure like to taste.

The fantasy kicks in right away, as the routine stocking of the bar by boss Michael Brandon and barback Taurus is interrupted when Michael barks, "Hey boy. Come over here for your nightly fucking." If you wanna see why Mr. Brandon is famous, watch this scene. Taurus is a super bottom, capacious and responsive, fully up to Michael's manic attack. But Michael, typically possessed, is particularly forceful. He slides the incredible length of his inflexible cock smoothly into Taurus' ass, such a long distance you think he'd need to get his passport stamped. The *Zagat Guide* said Michael's impressive, frenzied withdrawal/insertion technique was off the scale, simply *de trop*, and it certainly has Taurus crying

out. Finally, Michael sprays pellets of cum into Taurus' mouth, and then, as if he were wearing the Red Shoes of Jacking Off, he beats on and on until he erupts in a second load of greater velocity and volume than the first. All of it gobbled by Taurus. Yum. This is the way porn used to be: hungry and greedy, loads splatting against the back of the throat, cum-covered cocks guzzled to the root.

## Mass ass

Okay, so we've established that the staff is gay. It's a surprise, then, that the customers aren't. These straight dudes are casually drinking and smooching with their girlfriends. Behind their backs, however, the staff is plotting on their behalf. "We need to play the guys out," Michael tells bartender Adams. "That's your job — you're the instigator. That's what I hired you for." It's the fantasy job of all times: see if you can make it with

the customers. Tag, of course, earns his pay and then some. Sitting in the john, cock out and abs beguiling, he easily seduces Ortiz.

Then Montaz. Then Taurus works the john, taking down Montaz and

Peter, before Eric does

Jason and the whole bunch end up screwing their brains out in the mess of a mass finale. All of it nearly keeps up with the pace Mr. Brandon set in the opening.

Now, the plot is well-accomplished, but I doubt you'll want to see it more than once. Well, the smart guys at Raging Stallion know that DVDs can be programmed to deliver alternate versions of a movie. So click the "Sex Only" marker, and that's what you get. All 15 minutes of plot, all the girls and all the small talk, gone. It's just the sex.

The only other thing this movie needs is an additional apostrophe in its title, either before or after the "s" in *Boys*. It's a possessive. Which is how I feel about Montaz. And since I saw him first, it's how you can feel about the movie. [www.RagingStallion.com](http://www.RagingStallion.com); (877) 327-0707 ▼

## Karrnal Knowledge

## Mister Marcus

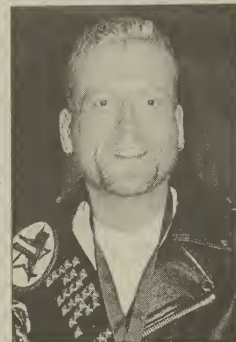
◀ previous page

moxie to face judges Glennon Sutter, Troy Anicete, Gavin Middleton, Didier Carbagnolle and that scamp Ken Ferraris. They put him through the mill and he came through with flying colors to land a spot in the finals coming up on April 15th and 22nd, when 12 of the previous contests will be chosen to be on the 2005 calendar.

It was a rousing, fun night with a huge enthusiastic audience on hand. Lenny Broberg will be the master of ceremonies on Thursday, April 15th, so you'll want to come down to the Powerhouse to witness the trauma.

## Chicago rises again

This coming weekend, Chicago's leather community will turn out for the revival of the Mr. Chicago Leather title being staged on Saturday night, April 10th at Chuck Rodocker's Touché Bar on the north end of Clark Street. The title was held only once in the past and that dashing Chuck Windemuth carried the banner for Chicago the same year (1991) that



William Cross was chosen Mr. Empire State Leather 2004 in Albany, NY last Saturday, April 4. He advances to compete at ABW in April 2005.

our own Mitch Johnson was the 2nd runner-up at IML.

Mitch and Chuck bonded during the IML competition, and in 1992, Chuck Windemuth was invited to co-emcee the Mr. San Francisco Leather 1992 contest with Mitch. What a beautiful pair of men greeted the audience that

night when Lenny Broberg succeeded Mitch for the 1992 title! Lenny went on to win the IML 92 title and since then, Chuck Windemuth has been the only man to hold the Mr. Chicago Leather title. That long record will be broken this coming Saturday night when the second-ever Mr. Chicago Leather 2004 contest will take place in the Windy City. With Chuck Windemuth teaming up with David Boyer (of Cell Block fame) and Chuck Rodocker, owner of the Touché Bar, it should be a great revival of a title that should have been consistent since it was created. I'll be there to help with the judging, so you'll be the first to know the results.

Last weekend, too, the Leather Leadership Conference took place in New Orleans, but at my deadline, there were no reports on what took place and it is doubtful if one will follow-up the conference itself. Doesn't leather leadership include press relations?

So long for now, that's all the songs for awhile. For up-to-the-minute news about your leather communities around the world, be sure to surf to [www.L LeatherPage.com](http://www.L LeatherPage.com) on a regular basis. ▼

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## PARTING GLANCES

**H.H. Haven't You Figured It Out?**  
E.O. and E. DIP. lied to you because they were jealous of our friendship. They wanted to separate us and they did. I miss making you cum. K. ☎ 71144

**Untangle my wand again, please...**  
What do baby names, Bakersfield and the Wizard of Oz have in common? ERAN! Need you to untangle my wand again...Kicking myself for not taking your card. ☎ 71146

**Antonio Watergarden 3-13 S.J.**  
We met. You came to my room #14. It was great! Would love to see you again. Bill. ☎ 71147

**Bob/Paul Jr flight #18 3/19/04**  
American Airlines SFO/JFK seat 26J. You were on your way home for your mother's birthday. Me, Asian, seat 25J. Can't forget your smile. Would love to meet you. ☎ 71157

## SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

**Healthy Vegan Lookn 2 Date**  
41 yo GWM, 55, 130, wants 2 meet a vegetarian, drug N disease free. U: 35-50, slim, in shape. Likes art & nature. ☎ 71135

**Craving Affection?**  
Feeling lonely or unloved? Need an understanding new friend to talk to, get to know better, and hug. Slim masculine guy, 44, seeks another slim masculine guy younger or same age, any race. ☎ 71136

**I'd Love A Gay Beck**  
GWM, 52, 5'11", 185#, into Shakespeare (and his intellectual context), Satie, Beck, daily workouts, seeks NS younger man for LTR. Prefer 5'4"-5'8", 110#-130#, sensuous, affectionate, with cute butt. ☎ 71138

**Asian**  
Young looking, caring GAM, mid 50's, slim, healthy, affectionate, is looking for an older GWM for relationship. We enjoy quiet times, cooking, traveling. No smoking. ☎ 71142

**Lonely Transsexual**  
I'm the only transsexual in this state hospital. I am very lonely, looking for transsexual or gay man to write for friendship and growth. Race, age and sexual fetishes don't matter. ☎ 71143

**ISO One Great Man**  
Me! GWM late 40's, top, 6'3", 175, height & weight proportionate. ISO White or Latin bottom h/w proportionate. ISO of good times & more. ☎ 71148

**Classic Cock**  
Chisled by a master circumcizer with 31 waist, lean defined chest and masculine friendly personality. Owner 44, seeks younger slim bodied manly guy with a loving heart and mouth. HIV negative. ☎ 71150

**HIV+ 37yrs Straight Looking/Acting**  
I'm looking for a caucasian under 40 that likes movies and quiet and romantic dinners. I'm Latino, 5'1", blk short hair, mustache & goatee. I like hiking, swimming, biking and long walks on the beach & park. ☎ 71155

**Cocksucking Toilet Slave**  
Seeking one kinky HIV- top who needs regular service. I'm 58, long time gymed attractive and friendly. Love to please my man. Must be non-promiscuous. ☎ 71160

**Affectionate Older Men**  
Affectionate, WLM, 6', 165 lbs. I enjoy being with older men over 60 who enjoy lots of cuddling, kissing, & other pleasures. Bearded, rustic-looking, husky, non gym, loners a plus. Poss LTR. No drugs or gay scene, but smoking. I drink OK. ☎ 71158

**I Want It All**  
Makes out, intimate sex to nasty fun. I'm uninhibited, clean cut mostly oral bottom. Tall, HIV+, 40's & am looking for a good man 40-50 with a great attitude & large heart to explore. No drugs B.S. ☎ 71159

**Redhead**  
SWM, ex-navy, 5'10", 180 lbs. Mobile Home owner ☎ 71137

**HIV+ 37yrs Straight Looking/Acting**  
I'm looking for a caucasian under 40 that likes movies and quiet and romantic dinners. I'm Latino, 5'1", blk short hair, mustache & goatee. I like hiking, swimming, biking and long walks on the beach & park. ☎ 71155

## SEEKING ADVENTURE

**Spank Your Butt**  
Hot, masculine top, 38, 5'11", 175#, seeks well-built bottom with nice round ass for over-the-knee spanking, role playing and plowing your ass. ☎ 71086

**Horny Senior Seeks Service**  
Young (20-30's) hung studs who like older guys (60's). Invited to suck my 7" uncult dick, work my rigid nipples. I can reciprocate. ☎ 71133

**Very Large Loads Wanted!!**  
6'1", 200 lb, German/Italian, needs to be fucked on a regular basis by a man who shoots extremely large loads of CUM! ☎ 71134

**Poz Blk Freak**  
5'8", 177, bald, cut, into video watching, rim, suck, fist fuck, toys, groups, JO, 3 ways and other nasty things. ☎ 71139

**Blue Collar Stud(s) Sought**  
Latin or Arab a plus. To explore dominance/submission with mid-40's, Anglo over educated, but appreciative guy. ☎ 71141

**Spanker Wanted For OTK**  
Spank my bare butt. Will reciprocate if desired or I spank you. No reciprocity required. Me: 159 lbs, 5'6", curly brown hair. Can do scenes. ☎ 71149

**Dad Wants Your Ass**  
Clean, healthy, horny 69 yo, masculine GW top (not versatile) ISO masculine GW bottom (not versatile). ☎ 71161

**East Bay Gay Master**  
Seeks straight slaves. I'll give you what your wife/girlfriend won't. Noives welcome. Your limits respected. DISCREET, safe and versatile. ☎ 71167

**Muscular Caucasian Seeks Asian**  
I'm 46, look younger, work out 4 days a week, wishes to date a smooth, in shape Asian. I'm a nice guy, romantic cultured. Not into the bar scene. Please be serious. ☎ 71169

**Seeking Black Men**  
Skinny little white ass gay male pussy boy fuck slut for lots of hung black men. Joe 300 Panther Dr. Reno NV 89506 ☎ 71173

**Attention Guys w/Huge Nipples**  
I have a muscular body and into guys with w/huge protruding nipples. I love to suck, lick and satisfy you, love great sex! Call and let's get together. ☎ 71168

**Mature, Endowed and Dominant**  
Black top seeks mature, masculine and submissive Latin man with dark skin, dark hair and a moustache only. Downtown Oakland/Downtown SF area. No age limit. ☎ 71172

**Spank Your Butt**  
Hot, masculine top, 38, 5'11", 175#, seeks well-built bottom with nice round ass for over-the-knee spanking, role playing and plowing your ass. ☎ 71145

**Raucy Hot encounters Wanted**  
GWM, 40, br/gr, 5'11", 178lbs, seeks GWM 40-? for hot encounters. New to SF area. Dominant tops/bears of special interest! Lets connect! ☎ 71162

## FETISHES

**Good Looking Bottom Blonde Blk 6'**  
Like being restrained under a rim seat. Like to huff on man smells & poppers, heavy into ass hole worship, love being a toilet for hairy ass men. ☎ 71117

**Young Cum Cigars Threesome 69**  
Me: HM, age 56, ISO young cum (18-21 only) for 69, smoke cigars, suck/fuck. Pluses: pretty boys, tight ass, pretty lips, oohs - ☎ 71140

**Smokers**  
LM 48, 6', 165 lbs. I'm looking for a regular cigar, pipe or cigarette smoker for sensual times & deep kissing. Prefer men around my age or older that aren't into the gay scene or lifestyle. ☎ 71151

**Exhibitionist/JO/Seize**  
Goodlooking w/ nice bod-you top, with nasty disposition; love sleazy, revealing, "worn out" attire. Wet crotches, j/o, w/s, "public play", g/s bud-dies@933. No drugs or alcohol. ☎ 71152

**Keep Me In Diapers and...**  
Humiliate me with VA, WS, Enemas, B & D, and more! I look like a clean cut football player, but rather be your sissy! ☎ 71153

**Lusting For A Man's Asshole**  
Inshape WM, 6'1", 178#, 60's, want to tongue, finger, massage your asshole. UB slim, to thin (or muscular), under 50 & totally into having your clean asshole attended to. ☎ 71163

**Goodlooking Black Ex-Marine**  
In search of white-haired and/or wrinkled, uncult old man. You'll have a lot of fun. ☎ 71164

**Derby Jacket Skinhead Ski-masked Firefighter, 25, seeks guys in Derby jackets, Ben Davis, hoods & ski-masked bandits who need motor-mouth service. Cholos, tuffs, derby dudes. ☎ 71166**

**Cum Fuck & Unload On My Face**  
Masculine mature WM seeking WM 65+ to fuck my face & subject me to facial cum bath. Make me your on-call pussy face, cum drenched sex slave. ☎ 71170

## OTHERS

**Onyx The Colon Beater**  
Bi male 29 yo, smooth, tattoos and very hung in search of Daddy time who can spoil me in every way. Myself strip, student. E-Mail: onyxthecolonbeater@yahoo ☎ 71154

**Musical Genius Looking For**  
counterpart. You must be sober cuz I am! I am 32 and in good shape. I like Yoga and writing as well. ☎ 71165

**Latex Love**  
Play safe! Wear a condom. ☎ SAFE

# BAR TALK

## PERSONALS ARE FREE!

### CATEGORY

- Parting Glances ☐  
 Seeking Relationship ☐  
 Seeking Adventure ☐  
 Lesbian ☐  
 Fetishes ☐  
 Couples ☐  
 Others ☐

Headline, 30 characters maximum

Write the rest of your ad here, 30 words maximum

**MAIL FORM TO:** BAR Talk, Bay Area Reporter, 395 Ninth Street, San Francisco, CA 94103


You must use this form to submit ads. Deadline for ads is **TUESDAY at 5 PM**, for the following week's issue. New ads run for three consecutive weeks. You will be notified by mail with information on how to leave and retrieve messages from your mailbox ad. Print clearly. No ads will be accepted without valid address, telephone number and legible text. The Bay Area Reporter reserves the right to edit ads. **One ad per customer per week.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

## PERSONALS

# BAY AREA REPORTER PERSONALS

## MASSAGE




**CREATIVE BODYWORK**  
Empower Yourself Thru Supportive, Sensual, Nurturing and Healing Touch

**Jack Walder, CMT**  
(415) 447-2700



**serious massage.**  
Certified Massage Therapist with strong, experienced hands. Non-sexual environment.

kealoha 241-9033  
www.KealohaDeLuna.com



orthopedic deep tissue swedish sports

**David Wabel, C.M.T.**  
415-298-3627  
www.potteromassage.com

**SEXY ASIAN**  
\$60 Jim 269-5707

Erotic nude Mas by mature in-shape man SF 24Hr Mark 398-2441

**EBAY BEEFY MUSCL**  
Gives good deep Swedish!  
Masc, hairy, 195, 5'11", 45, moust. M-F aft 5, w/o OK-Rlx-Table/Oil In \$60/60, \$90/90 510-601-6995

**BODYWORK BY ASIAN**  
CMT 5'6", 130, full body, real massage. In/Out. 218-0128

Relax Release enjoy a sensual full body massage by 40 CMT 75 min \$50 Great hands from Stan 641-8221

**FIRESIDE MASSAGE**  
Unique style therapeutic and erotic massage in front of a fireplace. Out calls available also. Johnny 505-3060

**FEEL THE DIFFERENCE**  
Strong, energetic and athletic. Fernando CMT (510) 325-7725. In/Out

**MASSAGE BY HOT ASIAN**  
28, 5'8", 145, Silky XXX Smooth \$80 In/100 Out, Call Hung 948-7244.

**CUTE MASSEUR 225-4081**  
5'9" 145Lbs. 30wst fit Slim/Smooth Blond/Brn eyes. SF/Marin. In/Out. Have table.

**SANTA ROSA HIDEAWAY**  
Superb very personal massage plus fantasies explored by mature masseur in remote country setting. Also, group massages and Overnight and Daytime Spa and Massage Getaway Packages. Roger 707-525-1771 www.sr-hideaway.com

**COMPLETE FULL BODY**  
Sensual massage done in the nude by masculine endowed mature masseur at your place. Chuck\* (510) 388-4941

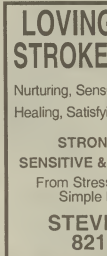
Mack's "FullBody" Massage In/Out Calls 415-350-0968



Strong hands, warm heart

**Kim Duff, cmt**  
415-305-4869

Return home to your body...  
www.kduffcmt.com



**LOVING STROKES**  
Nurturing, Sensual Healing, Satisfying

**STRONG HANDS SENSITIVE & EXPERIENCED**  
From Stress Reduction to Simple Relaxation

**STEVE C.M.T.**  
821-2985



**EXCELLENT MASSAGE**  
415 255-0850 DREW IN/OUT

**SJ SF EB ASIAN CMT**  
VGL masc GAM, 33/5'6"/150/6.5. Sensual full body ascupressure & Shiatsu massage w/release done nude, Therapeutic too. In/Out. Call Smooth Doug 408-202-0811.

**EROTIC MASSAGE**  
Healing, sensual, loving touch Deep tissue, Older men welcomed. Hotels, 24 Hours Josh, CMT. • (415) 346-4677.

Castro Certified • Only \$45/\$65 • **WANNA MELT?** • Jim de Masseur • 415-621-4517


**TRIP TO XTASY!!!**  
**BUNS & LEGS, NOOKS & CRANNYS, MY SPECIALTY**  
Hotman 48 6' 165 S&P Beard, hung Erotic FullBody Massage In/Out 10am-10pm \$60-70 M/C Visa. Add \$5. Call Dick 415-244-8828

**FULL NUDE RELEASE**  
I am a 25 year old model that has been in several large publications. 6'3 216Lbs Blonde hair/blue eyes, I am smooth with a 8X6 uncult. I have a hard, ripped body with a face that could stop a freight train. When I walk, people stop and stare. My masculinity drives men and women crazy alike. I am a great masseur and specialize in full nude, full release sensual rubdowns From "head to toe!" So come on in and release some tension. Mike • 415-505-5437.

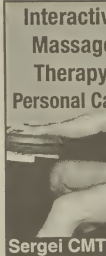
**PROSTATE BLISS**  
and health+full-body by pro. In \$60. 989-7736. Union Square area.

**HAIRY MASSEUR**  
full body full release massage done in the nude by a very nice looking naturally hairy guy! 510-912-8812. Outcalls only.

Sexual Rub/Hot 8" Nudist/Cum Together/Erotic/Ken/346-4966/\$80



**Back in S.F.**  
10 Years Experience  
50 in/60 out  
415.598.7946



**Interactive Massage Therapy. Personal Care.**

**Sergei CMT (415) 269-4470**



Relax in my hands  
Masculine guy 28 yo in great shape Swedish and Deep Tissue. Comfortable and convenient location. Available for in & out calls.

415 577 4376  
www.mmm-massage.com/jake



**REAL MASSAGE**  
Swedish Deep Tissue Relaxing  
18 Years Experience  
Professional LMT/CMT  
Warm & comfortable space  
Delores Park area

**Roy** 415-252-5606  
roysmassage@abglobal.net

**HUGE FAT CUT MEAT**  
9X6 Cut, 6' 180# 45 full release In \$60 • Buck • 724-8117.

14+ yrs exp, Full Tension Release • **MID-PENINSULA-CMT** • In/Out, days/eves, Tom, 650-345-7318.

Peninsula Therapeutic and Erotic In/Out. Full Body TLC 650-367-7528. Cell: 415 342-1675.

**WWW.SFGAYMASSAGE.COM**

Sexy dude will rub U down  
**HOT EURO BOY**  
Horny 24yobottom/smooth 5'7"/135# In/Out Calls - Jason 415-210-1526

**ENERGYBODYCENTER.COM**  
Integrative Bodywork 552-7417

Young\*Brown\*Kinky\*24Hr\*540-0269


**VALENTE**  
Erotic Massage by sexy Mexican. See pics: www.gaydar.co.uk/valentem Cell: 415 342-1675.

**YOUNG HOT ASIAN**  
Full Body Massage 415-385-0502 Roy

**GIVE ME YOUR BODY**  
for 1 hour. Let go. Feel the need. Castro. In \$39. Peter • 298-3309


**EAST BAY MASSAGE**  
Therapeutic 2 erotic, relaxing 2 deeply stimulating. \$100-90 min. 41y.o., blond 6', 170, friendly, sexy. Brad (510) 418-0979. (In Berkeley)

## MASSAGE




Hot, Nurturing Muscle Swedish Full-Body Private Studio in SF

**James CMT**  
415-359-3657  
www.JamesMassage.com



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calls

(415) 505-0069



Professional Massage  
Manny's Meltdown  
24 yold  
Out only  
415-756-3430

**Personal Touch**  
Therapeutic & Erotic  
Deep, Satisfying Massage  
Certified & Discreet

**Daniel 626-4192** Even/Weekends



**Michael CMT**  
415-235-8605  
Swedish Massage  
Nurturing, Therapeutic

San Jose-FullBody Swedish • CMT • \$40/hr-\$55 1 1/2 hr • Shower avail. 8AM-9PM 7 days-same day appt's. 408-288-6169 • Anthony • Air Cond.

**ACHING FOR A MASSAGE**  
Deep, rich, relaxing, strong therapeutic massage for in-shape guys by 29 yr old. Student discount, in/out calls, day/eve and late nite apptmts avail. Eric • 841-5870.


Fremont, Jim CMT • Great Hands • Therapeutic/Relaxing, Mature \$40/Hour • (510) 651-2217

**VALLEJO MESSAGE4MEN!**  
www.sfgaymassage.com/agino.html by appt only: Gino 925 200-6236.

**SACRED TOUCH**  
Intentional Focused Eroticism  
Derek, CMT 415-255-1164


Bisexual • San Jose • 408-729-7156

Magical Massage Mastery that heals while it pleasures from a CMT who knows how to electrify the body. Oak Greg 510-547-1364




**Jay**  
Swedish Massage CMT

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Hrs 10am-7pm Monday-Sunday  
jjwagner70@hotmail.com



**GEOFF**  
5'11" 150#  
Br/Bk  
Great Touch  
Super Friendly  
Convenient Location  
CMT  
415-863-6420

**BLOW-AWAY FULL-BODY DADDY MASSAGE**  
LUSH SATISFYING  
**JAS**  
CASTRO LOC. 864-5447



**BODY2RELAX**  
Alejandro CMT  
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Acupuncture & Herbs  
**JOSEPH CHANG**  
415 626 6189

**COMPLETE RELEASE**  
CONCORD-WALNUT CREEK  
FULL BODY/FULL PLEASURE  
BY FRED OR BUTCHY  
90-MINUTES/\$40  
CALL: 925-682-5675



**Ecstasy Of Berlin**  
Handsome CMT with a passionate touch for your unabashed pleasure by 5'9" 165 lb 30 uncult.  
Philip: 415-850-4333  
www.berlinboy.com

**WARNING:**  
This ad is 100% accurate  
My name is Byron. I am a passionate sincere no attitude kind of guy with a knack for deep tissue massage. I'm 24 yrs old with model looks. I have a well defined body which I love having explored. 6'1", 200#, bld/gre 8x6 In/Out 24/7. For massage and more 415 505-1540.

**MASSAGE BY MUSCLED DUDE**  
call Dave @ 650-533-2560 \$80/hr

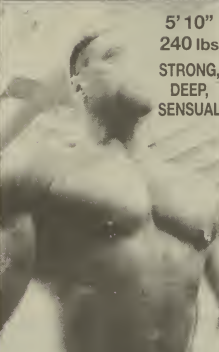
**CARING HANDS & HEART**  
Come as you are. Honest Massage  
Castro. In \$39. Peter • 298-3309

**BODY BARBER**  
& Massage Therapist. Shave/Trim/or sculpt body /hair/relax. Alan CMT 510-436-3330.

## MASSAGE

**PROFESSIONAL  
MESSAGE  
THERAPIST**

5'10"  
240 lbs  
STRONG,  
DEEP,  
SENSUAL



**CALL ROBERT**  
(415) 567-6015

**SCOTT  
CMT**



SWEDISH/DEEP TISSUE MASSAGE  
www.SOMAHANDS.COM  
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**Professional Massage**



Disraeli  
415-640-2836  
Out Only

5'10"  
150 lbs.  
**Thai  
Massage**



Deep Tissue and  
Relaxing  
Asian Wel-  
come  
415  
307-9560

Strong Gifted Hands w/30yrs Exp.  
Chip@sfgaymassage.com\*810-8140\*

**OUTSTANDING MESSAGE**  
Full-body therapeutic massage  
for you. Renew in my strong hands &  
caring touch. In/Out  
Dave CMT 510-383-9868  
bodyflowmassage@aol.com

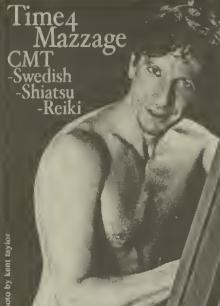
**DELUXE TANTRIC PLUS**  
Nude, full body, Erotic. By nice  
looking, Hot, muscular masseur.  
2 bks W of City Hall. (In only).  
\*9 yrs exp. \*Gary @ 305-5609

**Hairy Muscle Massage**  
5'10", 185, Handsome, complete  
sensual experience, nude on table  
Jim 415-934-9325 or 415-310-6624

**GREAT HANDS MESSAGE**  
Tall 6'5" 245 lb bln Nebraska  
farm boy residing in Cali. ready to  
give great massage. In or out 75 per hour  
408-569-3891.

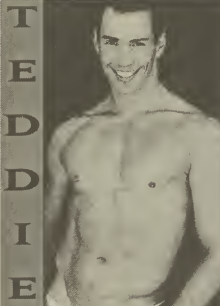
Magnificent Massage, Huge Hands  
relax, nurture. Rich 510-207-0545

**Time4  
Mazzege**  
CMT  
-Swedish  
-Shiatsu  
-Reiki



William  
415-203-7027  
time4mazzege.com

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CMT.



Sensual Massage \* Nob Hill in S.F.  
1-925-487-3402

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6'2"  
195#  
**KURT**  
STRONG  
MASCULINE SENSUAL  
917-216-9741

Relaxing, blissful,  
Deep tissue with  
strong hand, unhurried  
and friendly service.  
professional CMT  
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**CHAI**

**LAYDOWN & RELAX  
LET ME DO THE REST**  
Excellent full-body Swedish  
Massage. In calls. \$60 1 hour  
415-440-0723 • Tommy

**ASIAN STUDENT**  
Therapeutic massage w/table.Private.  
\$60/hr 9-7pm Tim 415-341-7716

Hot boy, 21, br/br, smooth, slim -  
sensual touch. 424-1502 Out.


Warm & strong, CMT Pro  
You'll return frequently for my  
**HEALING TOUCH**  
Irv 415-412-8570 in/out 10a-10p  
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**EXCELLENT MESSAGE**  
Skilled, intuitive bodywork and  
steamier hot nude erotic touch in  
warm, clean studio nr Dolores Park  
by tall smooth, musc blond w/strong  
hands. 90 min=\$100, 2hrs=\$120  
Heron Saline, CMT 415-706-9740  
...leave...feeling...good!!

Cute boy, 23, br/hz, smooth, sexy -  
Erotic Sensual Touch. 756-9911.

**ALFONSO  
SPORTS MESSAGE**  
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**STRIP!**  
off your tension



Justin  
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massage

50 min N of SF  
off Hwy 101

all ages,  
races,  
body  
types

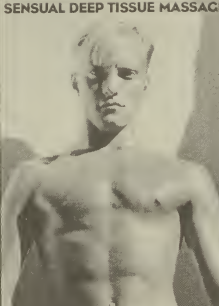
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notice  
OK

11am-  
10pm

CMT

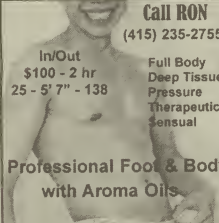
Nude pics/info: www.OneHotMassage.com

**SENSUAL DEEP TISSUE MASSAGE**



**STRONG HEALING HANDS**  
SWEDISH • REIKI  
JOHNNIE 415.661.8374

**Call RON**  
(415) 235-2755



In/Out  
\$100 - 2 hr  
25 - 5' 7" - 138

Full Body  
Deep Tissue  
Pressure  
Therapeutic  
Sensual

**Professional Foot & Body  
with Aroma Oils**

**THAI MASSAGE** CERTIFIED IN  
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**MALE SENSUAL MESSAGE**  
APRIL TAX DISCOUNT!  
Sensual/Erotic Sunnyvale Loc  
650-248-8485 Leave Msg 4 Danny

**ASIAN EAST BAY**  
In \$50, full body massage  
In \$50, Out \$60, 510-420-0112 Kenji

**VERSATILE IN MY STYLE:**  
CMT. Blend of Therapeutic & erotic.  
It's HOT. My hands CARESS your  
FANTASY. Your muscles are THICK.  
My hands go DEEP. The session:  
LONG. Your pleasure: HUGE. That  
tension: RELEASED. CUM over!! U  
& I NAKED, sexy Italian Hunk, hairy  
beautiful lean body. Dark skin. 38y,  
6'4", 190#, 8" cut. EVERYONE IS  
WELCOME. In call \$70 Out call \$90  
in SF. (415) 621-4202 LORENZO.

**WARM HANDS/HOT HOLES**  
5'9" Blond sexy student - 29 yr  
Sensual rubdown w/release  
Kip 424-7290

**EAST BAY MESSAGE**  
6'5" -215 Italian. Friendly  
Sensual Massage 510-668-1556

**INVEST IN TOUCH**  
Learn the basics and develop  
quality touch from Body Electric  
School's Massage 101.  
May 22-23 in Oakland. \$195  
Call 510-653-1594.

**EAST BAY MESSAGE**  
Therapeutic 2 Erotic, Relaxing 2  
Deeply Stimulating. \$100 - 90 min.  
41 yr, blond 6', 170, friendly, sexy.  
Brad (510) 418-0979 (in Berkeley).

**SPEEDO BOY 24**  
Attractive, masculine CMT in Union  
Square (415) 929-9224. Apolo.

**STRONG, HEALING  
MESSAGE**



UNIQUE, INTUITIVE BLEND OF  
DEEP TISSUE, ACCUPRESSURE & ENERGY WORK  
NURTURING & REJUVENATING. 10 YEARS EXPERIENCE  
10AM-11PM  
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giovanni@yahoo.com

**ASIAN / THAI**  
Thai Massage  
Swedish/Deep Tissue  
Relaxation  
Therapeutic  
5'9", 140lbs. gym tone  
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415-999-4787




**Relaxing  
Nurturing  
Healing**



Swedish  
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massage  
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Valley  
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**Expanded Hours**  
Scott Romyns,  
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from etown.aol.com/  
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CMT  
Deep Tissue  
Sports  
Full Body  
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**CHINESE GQ LOOKER  
PROVIDES EXCELLENT BODY  
WORK WITHOUT ANY  
COMPARISON. TRY IT NOW.**  
30, 5'11", 175 lbs. Outgoing. No at-  
titude. Call 415-255-0850.

Fit Castro Daddy Bear 412-0397.

**HOT MUSCL-ASIAN**  
Deep, strong, fullbody/CMT 408 661-7415

Relaxing Swedish Massage, 38, 6'2"  
195#, Handsome with strong hands.  
\$55/hr In only. Eves/wknds 845-4807.

**FIRST CLASS MESSAGE +**  
Nude, Erotic, Deep tissue, Swedish,  
by Euro-American w/great Body.  
(On Call) avail. 9am - 11 pm/7 days  
Centrally located. 415-552-1561.

**HANDSOME VENEZUELAN**  
Great nude Swedish massage, 26 yr  
Danny 235-6090 slim, 5'7", 130#.

Santa Clara muscular guy  
36 with nice body offers erotic  
sensuous gay clean professional whole  
body lotion rubs in-calls San Jose  
\$30 CMT (408) 286-9053

Michael's Bodywork, East Bay  
**HEART-FELT MESSAGE**  
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**NUDE MESSAGE BY SEXY  
MEXICAN**  
27Y0 150# 5'8" Great Looking  
musculine and friendly. Call Luis  
415-846-4213. In/Out.

**YOUNG SMOOTH  
TENDER ASIAN**  
IN OUT \$60  
DAVE 567-7693

Swedish, sensual massage, plus,  
Italian, 6', 175# 8" 10am - 8 pm  
John (510) 658-2437

**FROM HEAD TO PROSTATE**  
Real therapeutic with Release.  
Nice to look at. Lower Rates. \$  
Discrete. 244-9924 w/shower.  
(in only) Grove & Franklin St.

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Massage



Great Massage!

Danny  
647-  
9777

Enjoys a Sensual  
San Francisco style  
Massage therapy  
with a focus  
on the  
Cervix

Harshad  
Yadav  
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T.C. Parling  
or  
17 Corbett  
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**In DeerPark**  
Dave Gerdes,  
M.A., C.M.T.



• BODYWORK  
"Integral  
massage"  
• COACHING

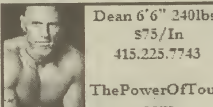
For appl. call (415) 497-9200  
www.indeerpark.net

**Serious Deep Tissue or  
Erotic Massage**



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Dean 6'6" 240lbs  
5'5"/In  
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Body-Electric CMT back in town.  
Offers Tantric, Butt-Prostate,  
colonics and MUCH more.  
Details on web site, 10am-9pm  
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**HOT NUDE MESSAGE**  
Hung 9x7 uc, 6'2", 165#  
VGL call David@ 240-9986

**HOT DEEP PROSTATE**  
Massage/also Hypnosis & ecstatic  
neo-tantra/2 hrs=\$120 tall, masc.  
CMT: Heron Saline 415-706-9740

**SEXY \* LATIN \* HANDS**  
Sensual msgg 4 men 33, 5'9", 180  
hometown.aol.com/sexylatinhandss/eb  
Outcall Ramon 205-9275

Hot New CMT 5'8"  
8 by 6 Yey 205-6378

**HERE'S THE RUB!**  
FULL-BODY RUBDOWN

For a Deep & Satisfying Massage  
Swedish, Deep-Tissue, Trigger Pt.  
Great for athlete Sports Massage.  
I'm available for same day, AM/PM  
In/Out, in the Height. \$75/75 min  
Call Joe Anthony, CMT  
415-863-2990

**EBAY BEEFY MUSCL**  
Gives good deep Swedish!  
Masc, hairy, 195, 5'11", 45, moust.  
M-F aft 5, w/e OK-Rlx-Table/Oil  
In \$60/60, \$90/90 510-601-6995

**BODYWORK BY ASIAN**  
CMT 5'6", 130, full body, real massage.  
In/Out. 218-0128

Relax Release enjoy a sensual full  
body massage by 40 CMT 75 min  
\$50 Great hands from Stan 641-8221

**FIRESIDE MESSAGE**  
Unique style therapeutic and erotic  
massage in front of a fireplace. Out  
calls available also. Johnny 505-3060

**FEEL THE DIFFERENCE**  
Strong, energetic and athletic. Fer-  
nando CMT (510) 325-7725. In/Out


**MASSAGE BY HOT ASIAN**  
28, 5'8", 145, Silky XXX Smooth  
\$80 In/100 Out, Call Hung 948-7244.

**CUTE MASSEUR 225-4081**  
5'9" 145Lbs. 30wst fit Slim/Smooth  
Blond/Brn eyes. SF/Marin. In/Out.  
Have table.

## PERSONALS


## MASSAGE

**GREAT BODYWORK**



NUDE, EROTIC MASSAGE BY WELL BUILT, WELL HUNG, MASC. GDLK/MAN.  
415 NEAR CIVIC CENTER  
290-1136

**SOUTHERN COMFORT**



Wade CMT 415 420-8096  
http://members.aol.com/rubsf

**SANTA ROSA HIDEAWAY**  
Superb-very personal massage plus fantasies explored by mature masseur in remote country setting. Also, group massages and Overnight and Daytime Spa and Massage Getaway Packages. Rr jer 707-525-1771/www.sr-hideaway.com

**COMPLETE FULL BODY**  
Sensual massage done in the nude by masculine endowed mature masseur at your place. Chuck • (510)388-4941

**SJ SF EB ASIAN CMT**  
VGL masc GAM, 33/5'6"/150/6.5. Sensual full body ascupressure & Shiatsu massage w/release done nude, Therapeutic too. In/Out. Call Smooth Doug 408-202-0811.

**EROTIC MASSAGE**  
Healing, sensual, loving touch  
Deep tissue, Older men welcomed.  
Hotels, 24 Hours  
Josh, CMT. • (415) 346-4677.

Castro Certified • Only \$45/\$65  
**•WANNA MELT?•**  
Jim de Masseur • 415-621-4517

**TRIP TO XTASY!!!**  
**BUNS & LEGS, NOOKS & CRANNYS, MY SPECIALTY**  
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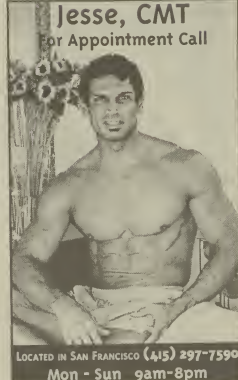
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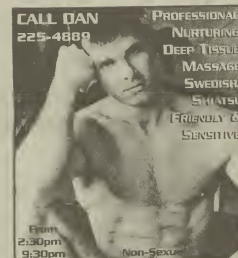


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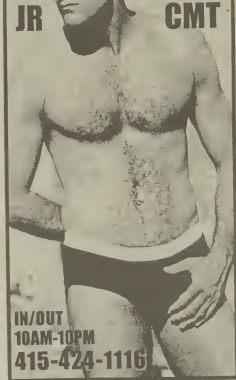
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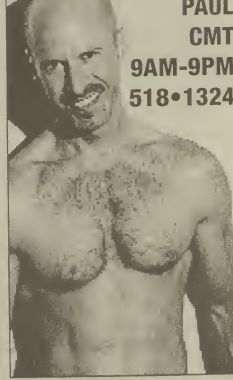
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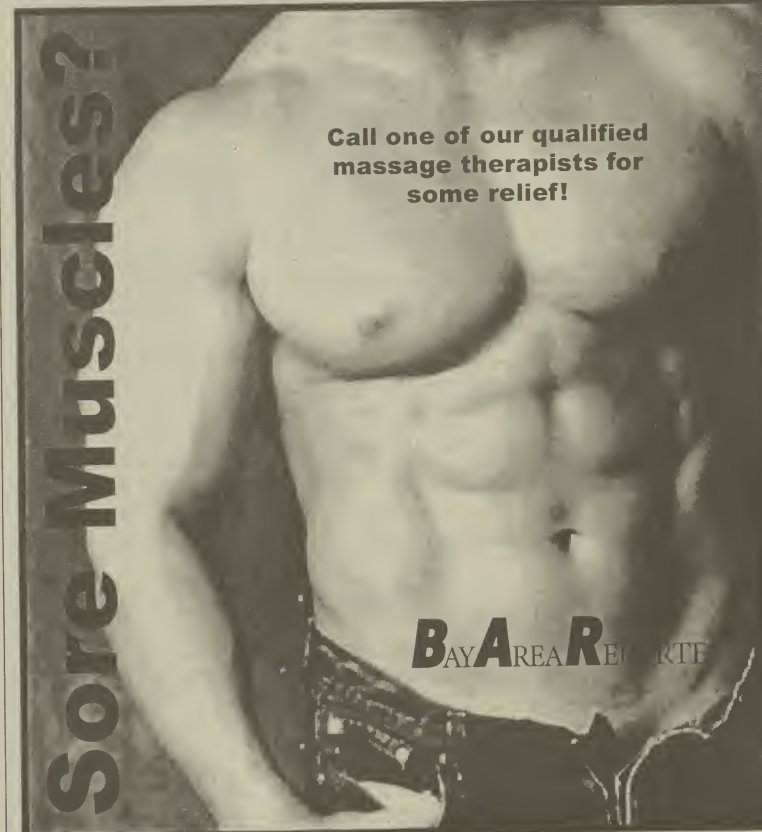
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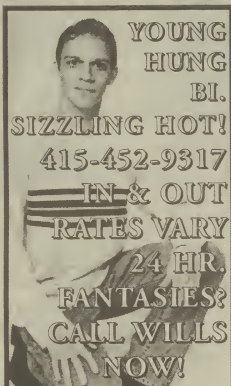
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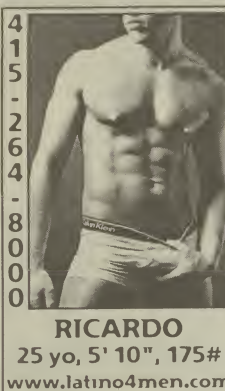
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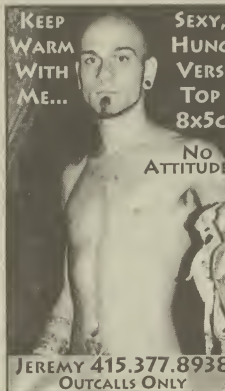
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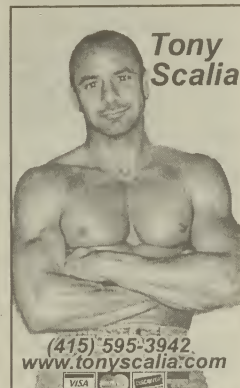
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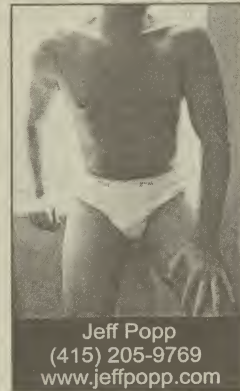
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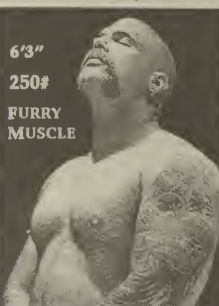
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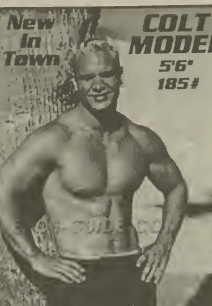
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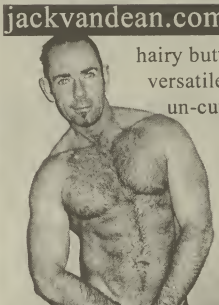


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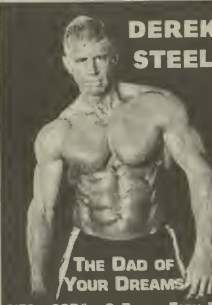
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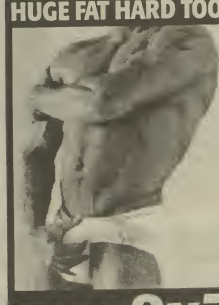
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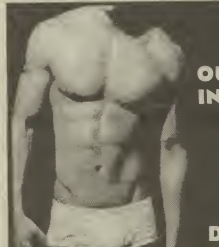


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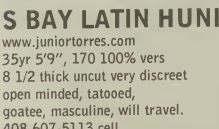


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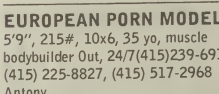


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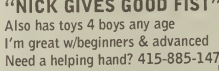
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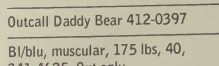
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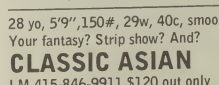
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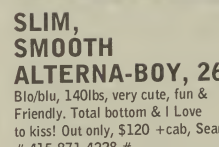
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**Marco downtown**  
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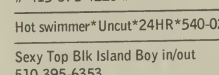
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**Friendly. Total bottom & I Love**  
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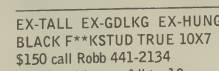
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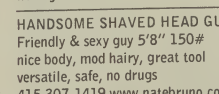
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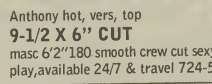
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**6ft • 180#**  
**muscular hung top**  
**1-800-616-7340**



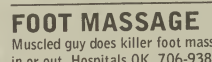
**Anthony hot, vers, top**  
**9-1/2 X 6" CUT**  
**masc 6'2" 180 smooth crew cut sexy fun**  
**play, available 24/7 & travel 724-5140**



**Sexy, masculine w/buzz cut, goatee**  
**SHVD HEAD STUD**  
**Well hung, big balls, 6 ft, ez-goin**  
**Client\*415-540-5311\* in/out 24 hrs.**  
**swingonanything@aol.com**



**FOOT MASSAGE**  
**Muscle guy does killer foot massage**  
**in or out. Hospitals OK. 706-9385.**



**CONSTRUCTION WORKER TOP**  
**6-1, 177#, vgl, 9 inch cut**  
**Page 650-523-9133, and massage**



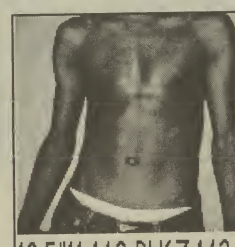
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**CHOKE ON THIS!**  
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**In/Out all Bay Area 415-256-6743**



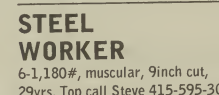
**RYAN**  
**19 5'11 140 BLK 7 1/2 cut vers Top 415.713.7098**



**WWW.M4MESCORT.COM**  
**AFFECTION STUD**  
**28 GWM 6' 190lbs 32wst Big Legs**  
**7" cut Hot BubbleButt Cleancut**  
**Masculine Versatile In/Out 24/7**  
**PAGE ME (415) 227-7727**



**STEEL**  
**WORKER**  
**6-1, 180#, muscular, 9inch cut,**  
**29yrs, Top call Steve 415-595-3064**



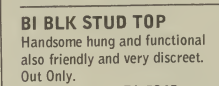
**Anything goes Asian 5'7" 135lbs**  
**Tom 415-412-7261**



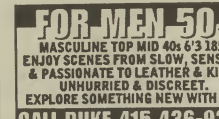
**http://www.sffootplay.com/**  
**SIZE 12 FEET**  
**COLLEGE BOY-21 YO WM**  
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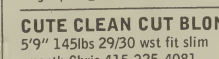
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**vers/very oral/anal service boy**  
**Karl • manlinx.com/karl 424-7290**



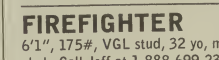
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**Dave Hammer 415-821-1342**  
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**smooth Chris 415-225-4081**



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GWM, high-tech professional, 53, HIV-, brn hair & eyes, 5'11" av build ISO fellow music aficionado in his 30's or 40's, HIV-, attractive, upbeat attitude & playful wit! Polite with good social skills, OUT and comfortable, compassionate & easy going. Our client is an Opera fan, loves the symphony, singing and Sunday New York Times. San Jose or San Francisco Bay Areas preferred. Visit [www.dukepersonalsearch.com](http://www.dukepersonalsearch.com) client ad 2738. (FREE).



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Card Number

Expiration Date

Signature

Name

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Name

Telephone

Address

City

State

Zip

Number of Issues

Classification

Amount Enclosed

Regular Stops Here ▼

CAPS Stop Here ▼

**BOLD** Stops Here ▼

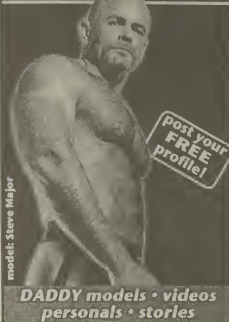
**X-BOLD** Stops Here ▼

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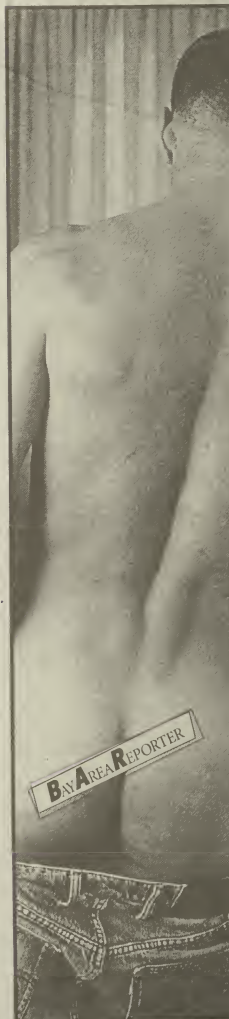
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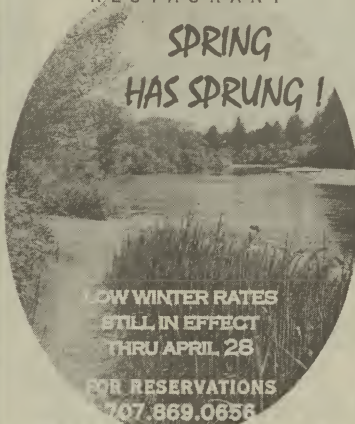
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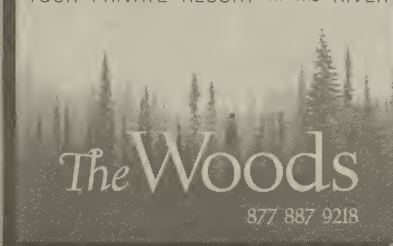


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